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Volume 7, Number 1

UPDATE!

January 1990

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Northwest Power Planning Council

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Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

Jan. 12
- **Better Use of the Hydropower System (paper 89–37).**
- **Potential Cogeneration Resources (paper 89–45).**
- **Conservation Supply (paper 89–47).**
- **Existing Resources and Power Transactions (paper 89–48).**
- **Planning Assumptions for Direct Service Industries' Loads (paper 89–49).**

Note: the deadlines on the following two papers have been extended.
- **Coal-fired Generating Resources (paper 89–44).**
- **Nuclear Resources (paper 89–43).**

Feb. 16
- **Generation Resources Supply (paper 90–1).**
- **Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio (paper 90–2).**

For more information:

Public Information & Involvement Division,
Northwest Power Planning Council,
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
503–222–5161

Toll Free Phone:
1–800–452–2324 *(Oregon)*
1–800–222–3355 *(Idaho, Montana, Washington)*
FAX number 1–503–222–9246

Direct service industries issues

As part of its work on the new power plan, the Northwest Power Planning Council is reviewing the current and future role of the Northwest's direct service industries and the special issues that these industries pose for power planners. An issue paper on these topics is being distributed for public comment. To receive a copy, request paper 89–49.

Background

Direct service industries are a group of industries that use so much energy they buy it directly from the Bonneville Power Administration, rather than from local utilities. About 90 percent of their electricity load comes from 10 aluminum smelters.

There are now 19 direct service plants in the region. As a group, they have contracts to purchase up to 3,750 megawatts of electricity from Bonneville. In 1988, they purchased about 3,000 average megawatts, or 15 percent of the region's total electricity sales and 30 percent of Bonneville's Northwest sales.

In the past, these industries have been subject to enormous shifts in the amount of power they consume. In addition, there have been some questions about their continued presence in the region. This uncertainty affects any attempt to plan for the region's energy future, and makes these industries a topic of particular interest to the Northwest Power Planning Council as it prepares its next 20-year power plan.

Instability of the direct service industries' load

Until 1980, the Northwest's industrial power users were a fairly stable load on the power system. Then, dramatically higher electricity prices (direct service industries' rates rose over 700 percent) and lower aluminum prices caused critical drops in aluminum smelters' energy use. This exacerbated the growing electrical surplus in the region.

To retain some of this load and the associated revenues, Bonneville lowered its power rates to these customers, later instituting a variable rate that changes with the price of aluminum. Bonneville also carried out a conservation and modernization program to help the aluminum companies reduce their overall electricity use.

To account better for the new instability of the direct service industries' load, the Council is attempting to include in its computer model of the region's power system more capability to analyze future load swings.

An added complication occurs midway in the 20-year planning cycle. In 2001, the contracts these industries hold with Bonneville expire. At this point, no one knows what will become of those contracts. Council staff is seeking comment on how to factor such uncertainty into its planning.

Section 5(d) requirements

Section 5(d) of the Northwest Power Act authorized Bonneville to sign new contracts with existing direct service industrial customers, that is, customers that had contracts with Bonneville in 1975. While direct sales to new industrial customers are prohibited, Bonneville is authorized to sell additional power to existing direct service customers, provided certain findings are made by Bonneville and the Council.

(continued on next page)

Note: The January Council meeting is on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 9–10, not the usual Wednesday and Thursday.

The application of Section 5(d) is a timely issue, because an existing direct service industry, Pennwalt Corporation, has requested an additional 34 megawatts at the direct service rate to expand its Portland chemicals plant. Bonneville has said it will serve this additional load, provided certain conditions can be met.

The Council is seeking comment on whether this action should be subject to review under the Northwest Power Act. And if it is, what procedure and criteria should be used and what affect this action would have on future direct service industry loads. ■

Future natural gas cost and availability

The results of a study of future natural gas supplies and prices were presented at the Council's December meeting. The study, conducted at the Council's request, was positive regarding the availability of natural gas and its cost, predicting only moderate price increases.

Estimates of the future of natural gas are important to the Council's work because these prices have a significant effect on the costs of operating combustion turbines. These turbines, which use natural gas to produce electricity, may be used to back up nonfirm hydropower to meet firm (guaranteed) power loads. Natural gas prices also affect the cost and availability of new cogeneration, much of which also may be fueled by natural gas.

Because of these concerns, the Council contracted with Economic Analysis, Inc. (now Economic Insights, Inc.) to assess the factors affecting the future price and availability of natural gas.

The contractor concluded that there is an abundance of uncommitted natural gas reserves available to the Northwest from Alberta, British Columbia, and the Rocky Mountain states. Except for extreme "peak-use" days, the existing long-distance natural gas transportation system appears to be adequate to handle the expected growth in traditional gas loads through 2010.

Surplus capacity likely will be available on the existing pipeline system to handle up to 2,500 megawatts of new combustion turbine capacity. However, this capacity would be reduced by new cogeneration requirements and would not be available during peak gas demand periods.

The contractor also concluded that the Council's forecasts of interruptible natural gas prices, escalating at 2.8 percent in real terms, overestimate the likely escalation of natural gas prices (request paper 90-4). ■

Workshop on acquiring resources

"Pacific Northwest Supply and Demand-side Competitive Acquisition" will be the subject of a workshop January 25-26, 1990, at the Red Lion-Lloyd Center Hotel in Portland, Oregon.

With the power surplus dwindling, the Bonneville Power Administration is developing a process for acquiring power, including competitive bidding on resources. At this workshop, individuals who have been involved in competitive bidding will discuss their experiences.

The workshop is sponsored by the Bonneville Power Administration, the Northwest Power Planning Council and the four Northwest states. For further information, contact Gil McCoy, Washington State Energy Office, 206-586-5053 or Victoria English, Bonneville, 503-230-3458. ■

Seattle lighting lab now open

Opening ceremonies for Seattle's Lighting Design Laboratory were held December 11. The lab will give architects, engineers and designers the opportunity to experiment with highly efficient lighting systems for commercial and industrial applications.

Seattle City Light is managing the lab, while 70 percent of the operating money will be provided by the Bonneville Power Administration. The Northwest Power Planning Council, the Washington State Energy Office, the California Energy Commission, the Natural Resources Defense Council and others are additional sponsors.

Investing in efficient lighting will delay the region's need for additional expensive power plants. The Council estimates that efficient lighting could save up to 1,000 megawatts of electricity in the Northwest—enough to power the city of Seattle.

The lab contains a mock-up room (with a moveable ceiling), a daylight modeling room, a computer modeling lab and a reference library. In addition, there are examples of new products and various educational programs.

The lighting lab is located at 400 E. Pine Street in Seattle. While there is no fee for the use of the lab, Diana Campbell, who manages the lab, recommends that potential clients call for appointments. The telephone number is 206-325-9695. ■

The Council's central office will be closed January 15, 1990 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

AGENDA

Council Meeting 147

January 9–10, 1990 – 9 a.m.

Owyhee Plaza, 1109 Main Street, Boise, Idaho

1. **Council Decision on Geothermal Resources:** Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division; and Jeff King, senior resource analyst *(request paper 89–36)*.
2. **Council Decision on Wind Resources:** Jim Litchfield and Jeff King *(request paper 89–40)*.
3. **Council Decision on Solar Electric Resources:** Jim Litchfield and Tom Foley, manager, conservation and resource assessment *(request paper 89–46)*.
4. **Council Decision on Transmission and Distribution Efficiency Improvements:** Jim Litchfield and Jeff King *(request paper 89–29)*.
5. **Council Decision on Biomass Resources:** Jim Litchfield and Jeff King *(request paper 89–41)*.
6. **Council Decision on the Potential for the Direct Application of Renewable Resources:** Jim Litchfield and Jeff Harris, conservation analyst *(request paper 89–39)*.
7. **Staff Presentation on Generation Resources Supply:** Jim Litchfield, Tom Foley and Jeff King *(request paper 90–1)*.
8. **Staff Presentation on Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio:** Jim Litchfield, Tom Foley and Jeff King *(request paper 90–2)*.
9. **Panel Presentation and Public Comment on Planning Assumptions for Direct Service Industries' Loads:** panel to be announced. Note: this agenda item is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Wednesday and may not appear in the order shown *(request paper 89–49)*.
10. **Public Comment on Nuclear Resources Issue Paper** *(request paper 89–43)*.
11. **Public Comment on Coal–fired Power Plant Generating Resources Issue Paper** *(request paper 89–44)*.
12. **Public Comment on Conservation Supply for the 1990 Power Plan Issue Paper** *(request paper 89–47)*.
13. **Public Comment on Better Use of the Hydropower System Issue Paper** *(request paper 89–37)*.
14. **Public Comment on Existing Resources and Power Transactions Issue Paper** *(request paper 89–48)*.
15. **Public Comment on Potential Cogeneration Resources in the Pacific Northwest Issue Paper** *(request paper 89–45)*.
16. **Council Decision on Entering Rulemaking to Update Protected Areas Designations** (tentative): Bob Lohn, general counsel; Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; and Peter Paquet, senior biological associate *(request paper 90–3)*.
17. **Council Business:**
    - Wildlife advisory committee charter
    - Adoption of minutes
18. **Public Comment:**
    - Will follow each item
    - Any other issues

UPDATE!

Conservation transfers—an idea put into practice

In its 1986 Power Plan, the Northwest Power Planning Council put forth an idea called "conservation transfers" —using energy saved in one area to meet power needs elsewhere. That idea is now being put into practice in Washington.

The Bonneville Power Administration recently signed contracts with three Northwest public utility districts (Snohomish, Mason County # 3 and Lewis County) to transfer their energy conservation savings to the private utility Puget Sound Power and Light.

The public utilities will begin work immediately on a mix of conservation projects to save a total of 6 megawatts over the next five years.

Bonneville will continue to sell the power saved to the public utilities. The utilities will add a mark-up to partially offset the cost of the conservation programs and sell the power—kilowatt for kilowatt—to Puget Power, beginning in March 1990.

The transfers provide the public utilities with a new source of funds to help pay for conservation programs, and Puget will gain additional resources to meet its power needs. ■

New MCS adopter in Washington

One more jurisdiction has been added to the list of local governments that have recently adopted the Council's model conservation standards this fall. In December, Snohomish County adopted the standards, joining King, Lincoln and Kitsap counties, and the cities of Everett and Bremerton. This latest adopter means that the standards have been adopted as the local building code in jurisdictions that represent approximately 60 percent of the building activity in Washington.

In addition, several bills are being drafted that would incorporate savings equivalent to the model standards in the state building code in Washington. The legislature will consider these bills when it reconvenes this January.

The model conservation standards set energy-efficiency levels for new buildings. By producing cost-effective electricity savings, the standards reduce the need to build expensive power plants. ■

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Portland, Oregon, on December 13-14. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

This meeting continued the Council's effort to evaluate individual resources that may be incorporated into a scheduled new power plan.

All decisions made in connection with the power plan at this point are preliminary. They will be incorporated into a draft plan, which will be submitted for public review this summer. Based on comment, many preliminary decisions may change or be fine-tuned.

Preliminary decisions were made at this meeting to incorporate policies about industrial conservation (excluding direct service industries) into the draft plan. These policies deal with the definitions of conservation and lost opportunities, with utility marketing programs, and with long-run objectives versus short-run targets. (Those policies are outlined in issue paper #89-38.)

A second preliminary decision focused on conservation voltage regulation (CVR). This involves strategies to provide electricity at more efficient voltage levels (described in paper #89-42). The decision was to include approximately 100 megawatts of CVR in the draft plan, as well as recommendations for individual utilities to review the feasibility of CVR on their systems. The Council also called for a Bonneville-coordinated study on the application of voltage regulation.

In the first of three presentations, Council staff reviewed current and future roles of the direct service industries in the power system. (See news item for more information.)

Contractors who had, at the Council's request, conducted a study of future

natural gas supply and prices presented their findings. (See news item.)

The Council also heard a presentation on the existing resource base. To determine what new resources will be needed, the Council must have a reliable assessment of current resources. This includes accounting for plants and programs scheduled to come on line or to be retired, as well as sales of power in and out of the region that are scheduled to begin or terminate. The Council must also take into account uncertainties about changes in legislation, regulation and treaties that could affect existing resources. (For more information, see paper #89- 48.)

A panel of experts in the geothermal arena also discussed major issues associated with development of the geothermal resource. Discussion focused on a proposed program for confirming the resource and the need to resolve potential land-use conflicts. (For more information, see paper #89-36.)

In other action, the Council provided opportunity for public comment on a number of plan-related issues that had been presented in previous meetings. An update on harvest management was deferred due to lack of time. ■

Publications available

Order publications from Judi Hertz, public involvement division, telephone number 503-222-5161, toll free: 1-800-452-2324 in Oregon or 1-800-222-3355 in Idaho, Montana or Washington. (Not all publications are available immediately, but they will be sent to you as soon as possible.)

NOTE: When requesting a publication, use the number (listed first) if the paper has been assigned one.

New publications

(90-1) Staff Issue Paper: Generation Resources Supply.

(90-2) Staff Issue Paper: Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio.

(90-3) Rule on Updating Protected Areas Designations.

(90-4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

Previously announced publications

(89-50) Executive Summary of Subbasin Plans for Areas above Bonneville Dam.

(89-49) Staff Issue Paper: Planning Assumptions for Direct Service Industries' Loads.

(89-48) Staff Issue Paper: Existing Resources and Power Transactions.

(89-47) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Supply for the 1990 Power Plan.

(89-46) Staff Issue Paper: Solar Electric Resources.

(89-45) Staff Issue Paper: Potential Cogeneration Resources in the Pacific Northwest.

(89-44) Staff Issue Paper: Coal-fired Power Plant Generating Resources.

(89-43) Staff Issue Paper: Nuclear Resources.

(89-42) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Voltage Regulation.

(89-41) Staff Issue Paper: Biomass Resources.

(89-40) Staff Issue Paper: Wind Resources.

(89-39) Staff Issue Paper: Assessment of the Potential for the Direct Application of Renewable Resources.

(89-38) Staff Issue Paper: Non-Aluminum Industrial Sector Conservation.

(89-37) Staff Issue Paper: Better Use of the Hydropower System.

(89-36) Staff Issue Paper: Geothermal Resources.

(89-34) Summary of the Second Salmon and Steelhead Round Table.

(89-29) Staff Issue Paper: Transmission and Distribution System Loss Reduction.

(89-1) 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

(89-1A) Appendices: 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

1989 Annual Report of the Northwest Power Planning Council.

1987 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

1986 Northwest Power Plan. The 20-year electrical power plan for the Northwest.

Directory of Organizations. ■

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Portland, Oregon 97204

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Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call the toll-free telephone numbers listed in this publication to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: **January 9–10** at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel in Boise, Idaho. **February 14–15** at the Stouffer Madison Hotel in Seattle, Washington. **March 14–15** at the Edgewater Village Red Lion in Missoula, Montana. **April 11–12** at the Eugene Hilton in Eugene, Oregon.

Council Member Working Committees: The Council will hold a working session on January 16–18 in Portland. Please call the Council's central office for more information.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: January 2 and February 6, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Group: January 3 and February 7, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: January 3 and February 7, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Generating Resources Advisory Committee: January 12 and February 22, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Demand Forecasting Advisory Committee: A meeting will be held in late January at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. Call for more information.

Economic Forecasting Advisory Committee: A meeting will be held in late January at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. Call for more information. ■

In this issue:

- **Comment requested on direct service industries' issues**
- **Resource acquisition workshop**
- **Electricity conservation transferred in Washington**
- **Future natural gas supplies and cost**
- **Lighting lab opened**
- **Synopsis of December 13–14 Council meeting**
- **Agenda for January 9–10 Council meeting**

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Northwest Power Planning Council

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Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

Feb. 16 ▪ *Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio (paper 90–2).*

Mar. 30 ▪ *Public Review Drafts of the Subbasin Plans for areas below Bonneville Dam.*

April 13 ▪ *New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects (paper 90–1).*

For more information:

Public Information & Involvement Division,
Northwest Power Planning Council,
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
503–222–5161

Toll Free Phone:
1–800–452–2324 *(Oregon)*
1–800–222–3355 *(Idaho, Montana, Washington)*

FAX number 1–503–222–9246

Environmental costs of resources

This winter, the Council is considering how to calculate the environmental costs associated with building and operating new power plants. Those calculations—which combine analytical analyses and subjective judgments—will help the Council rank potential energy resources for the Northwest in its 1990 Power Plan.

The Northwest Power Act requires the Council to develop a power plan that outlines ways the four Northwest states can meet their electricity needs over the next 20 years at the lowest cost. The Act also stipulated that the Council give "due consideration" to environmental quality and that the plan include a methodology for determining quantifiable environmental costs and benefits.

Including environmental costs is important in power planning because it gives a better picture of the real costs society faces in building any resource. In addition, a full accounting of environmental costs could change the prices for certain resources, and thereby alter the list of new sources of power the region could develop to meet its energy needs at the least cost. Lastly, power planners use the cost of some key resources—such as coal plants—to determine the price up to which it makes economic sense to continue to pay for more benign resources, such as conservation. Without a full understanding of environmental costs, power planners may set that level too low and miss the opportunity to obtain significant amounts of conservation energy.

While the Council's 1983 and 1986 regional power plans took environmental costs into consideration, the Council is expanding this analysis in the 1990 Power Plan. Part of that expanded analysis is examining the types and size of impacts (such as air pollution, toxic wastes, disrupted wildlife habitats or wilderness areas) each resource would have on the physical, biological and socioeconomic environment.

An issue paper (90–1) on this subject will be distributed for public comment. Call the Council to order a copy. ▪▪

New Oregon Council member

Angus Duncan has been appointed to the Northwest Power Planning Council by Oregon's governor, Neil Goldschmidt. Duncan will serve on the eight-member Council along with Oregon's other member Ted Hallock.

Duncan was corporate development director of District Utility Services Company, a PacifiCorp subsidiary that provides utility services to academic and business campuses and urban centers. Prior to joining PacifiCorp, he held executive positions in two companies involved with wind energy. Duncan was director of energy policy for the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1979 to 1981. He was an aide to the mayor of Portland, Oregon, from 1975 to 1979, and represented the city in the drafting of the Northwest Power Act.

Angus Duncan is the son of former U.S. Representative Robert Duncan who served as a Council member from 1985 to 1987. ▪▪

The Council's central office will be closed February 19, 1990 for Presidents Day.

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Drift net ban update

The U.S. Congress is working toward curtailing foreign drift net fishing in the Pacific Ocean. Several bills are currently being considered for adoption. These include:

A Senate bill, cosponsored by Senator Mark Hatfield, to require the Secretary of State to secure an international ban on the fishing.

A similar bill in the House, introduced by Congresswoman Jolene Unsoeld, and cosponsored by Congressmen Jim McDermott and Al Swift.

Another bill, introduced by Congress-man Peter DeFazio, and cosponsored by McDermott and Swift, to ban U.S. imports of fish or marine animal products from Japan, Korea or Taiwan until they cease drift netting.

A resolution, introduced by Unsoeld, and cosponsored by McDermott, calling for trade sanctions in fisheries products against countries that permit salmon drift netting in violation of existing international law.

A resolution, which has passed the House, calling for a drift net ban in the South Pacific.

In addition, after pressure from the United States, the United Nations recently agreed to phase out the use of drift nets. However, Congressman Swift has commented that the "continued pressure will be necessary to insure the strict enforcement of the ban."

The Northwest Power Planning Council has been following and calling for action on this issue because of concern that this fishery could be damaging efforts to rebuild the Columbia River Basin salmon and steelhead stocks. ■■

The role of the resource portfolio

A major part of the Northwest Power Planning Council's power plans is the resource portfolio. Because there has been confusion about what the portfolio represents, a briefing paper (90-2) is being distributed that describes the role of the portfolio and what it means for a resource to be included or not included in the portfolio.

A common misunderstanding is that the resources in the portfolio are the only ones the region can turn to over the 20-year planning period. That isn't the case.

The resource portfolio is a schedule of selected resources that have been identified as the best ones to meet the region's need for electricity if the region had to buy all of its resources right now. These are the best resources because they have been evaluated and meet the following criteria: availability, reliability, cost-effectiveness, environmental acceptability, and the ability to mix well with the existing hydro system.

However, not all resources will have to be acquired right now. As time goes on, new resources that are unknown today or do not yet meet the above criteria will surface. Technologies will mature making other resources more feasible and bringing down costs. If these resources do become available, they may displace resources currently in the portfolio if they prove superior.

Therefore, the resource portfolio is not meant to exclude other resources. Rather, its role is to provide a benchmark against which other new resources can be evaluated and measured. The Council encourages identification and development of such resources. ■■

Vice chairman visits Soviet Union

In January, Jim Goller, vice chairman of the Northwest Power Planning Council, attended and addressed an international conference in Moscow, Russia.

The International Foundation for the Survival and Development of Humanity invited utility executives and energy experts from around the world to attend the conference. Six hundred delegates attended the conference to explore the potential for energy efficiency as the most cost-effective, timely and environmentally sound strategy for dealing with global problems such as global warming, deforestation, ozone depletion, pollution and acid rain.

Goller presented two papers to the group in which he explained the strategy and philosophy of the Council's power planning process and the Northwest's experiences with energy conservation.

Attending the conference with Goller was Tom Foley, manager of conservation for the Council's central office. ■■

Errata: lighting lab sponsors

In last month's article on the opening of Seattle's Lighting Design Laboratory, one of the major sponsors of the lab was inadvertently omitted. The Northwest Conservation Act Coalition is a sponsor and has been one of the driving forces behind the establishment of the laboratory. ■■

AGENDA

Council Meeting 148

February 14–15, 1990 – 9 a.m.

Stouffer Madison Hotel, 515 Madison Street, Seattle, Washington 206–583–0300

1. **Staff Presentation on Federal Agency Budgets:** Edward Sheets, executive director; and Steve Crow, director, government affairs.

2. **Council Comments on Bonneville Power Administration's 1990 Draft Resource Strategy:** Edward Sheets; Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division; and Jeff Harris, conservation analyst.

3. **Council Decision on Conservation Supply for the 1990 Power Plan:** Jim Litchfield; Tom Foley, manager, conservation and resources; Tom Eckman, conservation analyst; and Jeff Harris *(request paper 89–47)*.

4. **Council Decision on Potential Cogeneration Resources in the Pacific Northwest:** Jim Litchfield; Jeff King, senior resource analyst; Terry Morlan, manager, demand forecasting; and Pete Swartz, system analyst *(request paper 89–45)*.

5. **Presentation on Power Export Policies of British Columbia:** John Allen, assistant deputy minister, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. Note: this agenda item is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Wednesday and may not appear in the order shown.

6. **Council Decision on Nuclear Resources:** Jim Litchfield and Jeff King *(request paper 89–43)*.

7. **Council Decision on Better Use of the Existing Hydropower System:** Jim Litchfield; Wally Gibson, manager, system analysis and rates; and John Fazio, power system analyst *(request paper 89–37)*.

8. **Council Decision on Coal-fired Power Plant Generating Resources:** Jim Litchfield and Jeff King *(request paper 89–44)*.

9. **Council Decision on Planning Assumptions for the Direct Service Industries:** Jim Litchfield; Bob Lohn, general counsel; Terry Morlan; and Wally Gibson *(request paper 89–49)*.

10. **Council Decision on Existing Resources and Power Transactions:** Jim Litchfield, John Fazio and Jeff King. *(request paper 89–48)*.

11. **Council Decision on Biomass Resources:** Jim Litchfield and Jeff King *(request paper 89–41)*.

12. **Staff Presentation on New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects:** Jim Litchfield, Tom Foley and Jeff King *(request paper 90–1)*.

13. **Panel Presentation on Conservation Transfers:** Matt Dillon, commissioner, Snohomish County PUD; Patrick McGary, director, power supply conservation, Mason County PUD #3; and representatives from the Bonneville Power Administration, Puget Sound Power & Light Company and Lewis County PUD. Note: this agenda item is scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday and may not appear in the order shown.

14. **Public Comment on Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio** *(request paper 90–2)*.

15. **Council Decision on Entering Rulemaking to Update Protected Areas Designations:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; Bob Lohn; and Peter Paquet, senior biological associate *(request paper 90–3)*.

16. **Council Deliberation on Resolution concerning the High Seas Drift Net Fisheries:** Rick Applegate and John Marsh, system planning coordinator.

17. **Council Deliberation on Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment Schedule:** Rick Applegate and John Volkman, senior counsel.

18. **Council Business:**
    - Economic Forecasting Advisory Committee Charter
    - Demand Forecasting Advisory Committee Charter
    - State Agency Task Force Charter
    - Adoption of Minutes

19. **Public Comment:**
    - Will follow each item
    - Any other issues

UPDATE!

Have you helped save the fish?

Have you, your school, or your local fishing club been involved in volunteer efforts to rehabilitate a fish run, educate people about the importance of fish and wildlife, or any other effort to enhance the Northwest's fish and wildlife populations? If so, the Northwest Power Planning Council would like to know about it.

This information will be used by the Council as it examines the possibility of linking volunteer efforts and educational programs with its fish and wildlife program.

If you would like to tell the Council about your experiences, contact Barb Taylor at the Council's central office. The address and telephone number are listed on the first page of this newsletter. ∷

Wildlife meetings held in Washington

As part of the Council's wildlife mitigation program, the Washington Department of Wildlife is holding the following public hearings on goals for restoring or compensating for wildlife habitat lost due to Grand Coulee Dam.

- **Davenport—February 12, 7–10 p.m., Cottonwood Inn, 7th and Logan St.**
- **Kettle Falls—February 13, 7–10 p.m., Cy Bittner's Bar and Grill, Hwy. 395.**

For more information, contact Jerry Neal, Washington Department of Wildlife, 600 Capitol Way N., Olympia, Washington 98501, 206-753-5700. ∷

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Boise, Idaho on January 9 and 10. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

The Council made several preliminary decisions on what amounts of certain resources to include in the analysis of the 1990 resource portfolio. This analysis will determine the best mix of resources to meet the range of future load growth facing the region. The megawatt totals are based on the best knowledge of the cost and availability of the resource at this time. This information has been derived from staff analysis and public comment. When the draft plan is released this summer, the Council will take further comment and further refine the resource portfolio.

The decisions included the following:

- Consider 350 megawatts of geothermal resources for inclusion in the portfolio and evaluate another 1,000 megawatts to determine its potential role in the plan (paper 89–36).
- Consider 400 megawatts of wind resources for inclusion in the portfolio and evaluate another 1,000 megawatts. The Council will evaluate the appropriate amount of wind energy to include in the plan after the portfolio analysis (paper 89–40).
- Direct staff and request the Bonneville Power Administration to analyze the cost-effectiveness of the Luz-type solar and natural gas hybrid technology—near term—and the photovoltaic technology—long term (paper 89–46).
- Consider 200 megawatts of transmission and distribution efficiency improvements for inclusion in the portfolio (paper 89–29).
- Integrate the resource from direct application renewables into the supply curves for residential and commercial conservation. Direct application renewables reach the end user without going through transmission lines; for example, solar heating of hot water (paper 89–39).

A scheduled decision on biomass resources was deferred until the next Council meeting.

Council staff outlined the elements of an issue paper that is being prepared that will describe methods for evaluating and quantifying environmental impacts of various resources (paper 90–1). See separate story.

Staff also gave a presentation which explained the role of the resource portfolio and how resources not yet identified will be treated (paper 90–2). See separate story.

A panel discussed special challenges the direct service industries present for power planning. These are electricity-intensive industries, such as aluminum, that buy power directly from Bonneville. Panelists represented the industries, public power utilities, Bonneville and Northwest Conservation Act Coalition (paper 89–49).

The Council also provided public comment opportunities for the following resources. Preliminary decisions on those resources are scheduled for the next meeting. These include: nuclear (paper 89–43), coal (89–44), conservation supply (89–47), better use of the hydropower system (89–37), cogeneration (89–45) and the existing resource base (89–48). ∷

Editor's note

Beginning with this issue, Update! will be printed on recycled paper. ∷

Publications available

Order publications from Judi Hertz, public involvement division, telephone number 503-222-5161, toll free: 1-800-452-2324 in Oregon or 1-800-222-3355 in Idaho, Montana or Washington. (Not all publications are available immediately, but they will be sent to you as soon as possible.)

NOTE: When requesting a publication, use the number (listed first) if the paper has been assigned one.

New publications

(89-4A) Power Planning Division Work Plan (Revised).

Public Review Drafts of Subbasin Plans for the Following Subbasins below Bonneville Dam:

Columbia River (including minor tributaries)
Willamette River
Sandy River
Grays River
Elochoman River
Kalama River
Washougal River
Lewis River
Cowlitz River

Previously announced publications

(90-4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

(90-3) Rule on Updating Protected Areas Designations.

(90-2) Staff Briefing Paper: Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio.

(90-1) Staff Issue Paper: New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects. Formerly titled "Generation Resources Supply."

(89-50) Executive Summary of Subbasin Plans for Areas above Bonneville Dam.

(89-49) Staff Issue Paper: Planning Assumptions for Direct Service Industries' Loads.

(89-48) Staff Issue Paper: Existing Resources and Power Transactions.

(89-47) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Supply for the 1990 Power Plan.

(89-46) Staff Issue Paper: Solar Electric Resources.

(89-45) Staff Issue Paper: Potential Cogeneration Resources in the Pacific Northwest.

(89-44) Staff Issue Paper: Coal-fired Power Plant Generating Resources.

(89-43) Staff Issue Paper: Nuclear Resources.

(89-41) Staff Issue Paper: Biomass Resources.

(89-40) Staff Issue Paper: Wind Resources.

(89-39) Staff Issue Paper: Assessment of the Potential for the Direct Application of Renewable Resources.

(89-37) Staff Issue Paper: Better Use of the Hydropower System.

(89-36) Staff Issue Paper: Geothermal Resources.

(89-29) Staff Issue Paper: Transmission and Distribution System Loss Reduction.

(89-1) 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

(89-1A) Appendices: 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

1986 Northwest Power Plan. The 20-year electrical power plan for the Northwest.

1987 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

1989 Annual Report of the Northwest Power Planning Council. ■■

UPDATE!

Editor: Ruth L. Curtis
Northwest Power Planning Council
851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204

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Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call the toll-free telephone numbers listed in this publication to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: **February 14–15** at the Stouffer Madison Hotel in Seattle, Washington. **March 14–15** at the Edgewater Village Red Lion in Missoula, Montana. **April 11–12** at the Eugene Hilton in Eugene, Oregon. **May 9–10** at the Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, Idaho. **June 13–14** in Spokane, Washington.

Council Member Working Committees: The Council will hold a working session during February in Portland. Please call the Council's central office for more information.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: February 6 and March 6, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

State Agency Advisory Committee: February 8 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Group: February 7 and March 7, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: February 7 and March 7, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Demand Forecasting Advisory Committee: February 9, 1–5 p.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Economic Forecasting Advisory Committee: February 9, 9 a.m. – noon at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Research, Demonstration and Development Advisory Committee: February 21, 9 a.m. at 851 S.W. Sixth, ninth floor, Portland, Oregon.

Generating Resources Advisory Committee: February 22, 9 a.m. at 851 S.W. Sixth, ninth floor, Portland, Oregon. March 1 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

In this issue:

- Angus Duncan is the new Oregon Council member.
- Update on banning drift net fishing.
- The Council's vice chairman visits the Soviet Union.
- Calculating the environmental cost of generating resources.
- The role of the resource portfolio.
- Wildlife hearings held on Grand Coulee.
- Information sought on volunteer efforts to help fish.
- Agenda for the February 14–15 Council meeting.

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Volume 7, Number 3

March 1990

UPDATE!

Northwest Power Planning Council

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Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

Mar. 30 ▪ ***Public Review Drafts of the Subbasin Plans for areas below Bonneville Dam.***

April 13 ▪ ***Research, Development and Demonstration Agendas for Renewable Resources (paper 90–5).***

April 16 ▪ ***Updating Protected Areas Designations (paper 90–3).***

April 27 ▪ ***New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects (paper 90–1).***

For more information:

Public Information & Involvement Division,
Northwest Power Planning Council,
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
503–222–5161

Toll Free Phone:
1–800–452–2324 *(Oregon)*
1–800–222–3355 *(Idaho, Montana, Washington)*
FAX number 1–503–222–9246

Federal budgets mixed bag for NW

Each year, the Northwest Power Planning Council reviews the administration's budgets of federal agencies responsible for implementing the Council's power plan and fish and wildlife program. The Fiscal Year 1991 budgets sent mixed messages to the Northwest.

On one hand, the administration requested money for repairing hydroelectric dams on the Columbia River to reduce the number of fish killed by turbines. Such repairs would give the region's ratepayers a higher return on the millions of dollars they've invested in fish enhancement efforts.

But on the other hand, the administration reiterated calls to change the way the Bonneville Power Administration repays its loans from the federal government, a move that—if enacted—would raise the region's power bill and cripple its energy-intensive industries. The budget also proposed restricting Bonneville's ability to borrow money for conservation efforts.

The Council will testify this month about its concerns before congressional appropriation subcommittees.

Bypass funded

For the first time in recent history, the president's budget request to Congress supports a major program of repairs at Columbia River hydroelectric dams. Repairs include $15 million in bypass channels and screens that divert downstream migrating salmon and steelhead from deadly turbines at four federal dams. Bypass improvements are a critical part of the integrated effort to rebuild salmon runs decimated when the dams were developed.

Regional power and fish entities agreed in 1987 to an expedited schedule to complete repairs by 1994. Funding for these repairs was absent from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' budget requests in 1988, 1989 and 1990. However, at the urging of the Northwest congressional delegation, Congress added a total of $28.2 million for the bypass facilities to the Corps' budgets since 1988.

The 1991 budget still does not include adequate funds for bypass facilities at two dams where the Corps opposes installing bypass facilities—Ice Harbor and The Dalles. Instead, the Corps proposed a $2 million study for these projects. Of the two, Ice Harbor is ready for construction without further delay. The Dalles requires continued funding to design and test screens and bypass facilities.

Bonneville repayments

The administration's proposed budget would change the way Bonneville and four other federal power-marketing agencies repay their debt to the U.S. Treasury. Money borrowed before 1974 to build dams and transmission facilities would be repaid on a revised amortization schedule at floating interest rates rather than fixed rates the agencies currently pay.

If enacted, the proposal would increase Bonneville's 1991 repayment by $590 million. Bonneville estimated that a similar budget proposal made last year would have forced it to raise wholesale rates at least 35 percent.

The administration also proposes to limit Bonneville's ability to borrow money for conservation programs and transmission equipment. This limitation could cut conservation spending in 1991 by one-third. The Council is very concerned that, just when the Northwest's electricity surplus is disappearing, it is losing the most important tool necessary to acquire conservation, the least expensive resource. ■

PLEASE RETURN

States moving on model standards

On February 5, Washington became the first state in the Northwest to adopt the full model conservation standards for residential construction.

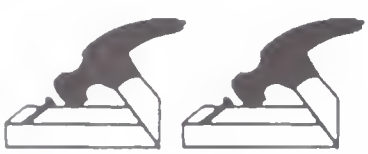
These model standards, also called the Northwest Energy Code, were developed by the Council and set energy-efficiency levels for buildings. Saving energy through this improved efficiency will delay the need for new power plants. Over 70 local governments throughout the Northwest have already adopted the standards.

Washington's new energy code will take effect July 1991. The new code includes a building code equivalent to the Council's standards with some minor alterations and a code for non-electric homes that is identical to that in a bill the legislature considered last year.

Washington is not the only state improving its energy code. In Idaho, utilities recently sponsored a senate bill that introduces a statewide energy code. This code would be below the level of the standards, so areas that have already adopted the standards would continue with them. In areas without energy codes, the bill would improve building practices.

The state of Oregon amends its statewide building code every three years and is considering the standards for 1992.

Montana is pursuing an education strategy statewide to move building practice toward energy-efficient buildings. ■



Protected areas amendments

In February, the Northwest Power Planning Council voted to consider changes to the Council's protected areas designations. Public comment is requested on the proposed changes.

The Council adopted the protected areas designations in August 1988 to protect approximately 44,000 miles of streams and rivers with important fish and/or wildlife habitat from hydropower development. The designations are now part of the Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program and its Northwest Power Plan.

The designations were based on stream-reach data collected by the four Northwest states. The Council anticipated revisions as data improved, and it provided a process for technical corrections. That process is now being used to consider these proposed changes.

The following types of changes are proposed for Council consideration.

- **Agency revisions to existing designations:** The Northwest fish and wildlife agencies have turned up new information showing that about 560 miles of additional reaches appear to meet the qualifications for protected status, while another 560 miles of currently protected reaches do not appear to qualify for that status. In addition, the agencies are proposing additional rationales (habitat for anadromous fish, resident fish or wildlife) for protecting 3,100 miles of already designated reaches. No pending hydroelectric projects are affected by the changes in this category.

- **Project-related revisions:** The Council has received the following proposals:

1. changes that would allow a proposed project to proceed and have been agreed to by state fish and wildlife agencies;
2. changes that would allow a proposed project to proceed and are opposed by state fish and wildlife agencies on the grounds that the change would put the protected resources at risk; and
3. changes proposed by state agencies as a result of new information which would reclassify reaches on which there are projects proposed.

To receive a list of the proposed changes, request paper 90-3 from the Council. See "Publications available."

Written comment on these changes will be accepted until 5 p.m., Monday, April 16, 1990. Please send comment to the Council's central office in Portland.

The following public hearings have been scheduled:

Idaho
March 20, 7 p.m.
Owyhee Plaza, Regency Room, Boise

March 22, 7 p.m.
Canyon Springs Inn, Twin Falls

Montana
March 14, 4:30 p.m. As part of the March 14–15 Council meeting at the Village Red Lion, Missoula.

Oregon
As part of the April 11–12 Council meeting at the Eugene Hilton, Eugene.

Washington
March 21, 1:30 p.m.
World Trade Center, SeaTac Airport, Theater (behind the Thai Airline ticket counter), Seattle. ■

AGENDA

Council Meeting 149

March 14–15, 1990 – 9 a.m.

Village Red Lion, 100 Madison Street, Missoula, Montana
(406) 728–3100

1. **Staff Presentation on Research, Development and Demonstration Agendas for Renewable Resources Issue Paper:** Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division; and Jeff King, senior resource analyst *(request paper 90–5)*.

2. **Council Comments on the Bonneville Power Administration's Draft Resource Acquisition Approaches Plan – Supplement to the Draft 1990 Resource Program:** Edward Sheets, executive director; Jim Litchfield and Tom Foley, manager, conservation and resources.

3. **Staff Presentation on Preliminary Resource Portfolio Analysis:** Jim Litchfield and Pete Swartz, system analyst.

4. **Staff Presentation on Bonneville/Council Forecast Update:** Jim Litchfield and Terry Morlan, manager, demand forecasting.

5. **Council Decision on Section 5(d)(3) of the Northwest Power Act Guidelines:** Edward Sheets; and Bob Lohn, general counsel.

6. **Public Comment on Supply Curves and Environmental Effects of New Resources Issue Paper** *(request paper 90–1)*.

7. **Staff Briefing on System Planning:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; and John Marsh, system planning coordinator.

8. **Staff Presentation on Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Rehabilitation Activities Briefing Paper:** Rick Applegate; and Barbara Taylor, planner *(request paper 90–6)*.

9. **Public Hearing on Updating Protected Areas Designations** *(request paper 90–3)*. *This agenda item is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on March 14.*

10. **Council Business:**
    - Adoption of Minutes

11. **Public Comment:**
    - Will follow each item
    - Any other issues

It is likely that the public portion of the meeting will be completed on March 14. The Council may hold an executive session on March 15 to discuss matters protected under the internal personnel or premature disclosure exceptions.

UPDATE!

Fish and wildlife amendment schedule

At its February meeting, the Northwest Power Planning Council announced a schedule for amending the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

The Northwest Power Act requires the Council to invite fish and wildlife agencies and Indian tribes to submit recommendations for amending the fish and wildlife program before a "review" or "major revision" of the Northwest Power Plan.

A review of the power plan will begin later this year when the Council issues a draft power plan. Therefore, the Council requests that the fish and wildlife agencies and Indian tribes submit recommendations for salmon and steelhead production amendments, in the form of a proposed system plan, by September 1, 1990. The system plan will incorporate the salmon and steelhead production analyses of 31 major subbasins in the Columbia River Basin. Others may submit salmon and steelhead amendments on the same schedule.

Other areas of the program that may require amendment will be discussed in meetings with the fish and wildlife agencies and Indian tribes over the next three months. The Council will also consider requests for consultations from other interested parties for the same purpose.

After these meetings, the Council will announce deadlines for submitting amendment recommendations for parts of the program not relating to salmon and steelhead production. ■

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Seattle, Washington, on February 14 and 15. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

Power planning issues

The Council meeting focused on implementation of the current Northwest Power Plan and on development of the new plan.

The Council reviewed the Bonneville Power Administration's proposed 1991 budget. In addition to concerns about proposals to increase repayment costs and limit borrowing for conservation, the Council questioned whether proposed spending levels for conservation would promote a smooth transition to higher levels spending needed in 1992 and beyond.

The Council also reviewed Bonneville's Draft Resource Program for 1992 through 1997. The Council was pleased with the direction of Bonneville's program and believes that its activities are consistent with the Council's plan. The Council was concerned, however, that more effort is needed to achieve the objectives of capturing all cost-effective lost-opportunity energy savings and building the capability to run conservation programs in all sectors of the economy. The Bonneville proposal would capture less than half the lost-opportunity conservation in 1992, and Bonneville has proposed to eliminate several programs in the commercial sector.

The Council also made a number of preliminary decisions on the cost and operating assumptions that will be used to analyze resources for its new power plan. The staff will use these to develop a mix of resources to meet future electricity needs at the lowest possible cost. These assumptions included:

- 3,200 megawatts of conservation are technically possible over the next 20 years at roughly half the price of new coal plants (paper 89-47).
- 2,200 megawatts of cogeneration are available at between 6 and 12 cents per kilowatt-hour. Of this amount, 480 megawatts would be fueled by biomass and 1,720 megawatts by natural gas (paper 89-45).
- Changes in assumptions on availability, operating and maintenance costs indicate that Washington Nuclear Plants 1 and 3 could produce about 1,690 megawatts of electricity at approximately 7.2 to 7.6 cents per kilowatt-hour (paper 89-43).
- It is possible to build combined-cycle combustion turbines or use other techniques to firm 1,000 megawatts of nonfirm hydroelectricity by the year 2000 and another 1,500 megawatts by 2010 (paper 89-37).
- 4,800 megawatts of new coal generation could be built at costs ranging from 7.6 to 9.3 cents per kilowatt-hour (paper 89-44).

Staff also described possible environmental effects of new resources. An issue paper is being distributed to solicit information to help the Council make decisions on the type, sequence and amounts of these resources to be acquired for the 1990 Power Plan's resource portfolio (paper 90-1).

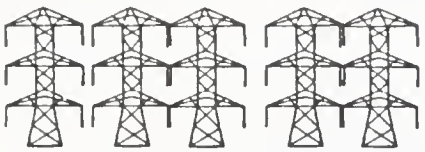
Representatives from Snohomish, Lewis and Mason County public utility districts, Bonneville and Puget Sound Power and Light reported on their experience negotiating the first conservation transfer in the Northwest. The transfer involved moving energy savings from utilities with excess electricity to those that need the energy.

In another presentation, officials from British Columbia's Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources briefed the Council on that province's power export policies.

A public comment opportunity was provided on the paper "Resources Outside The Resource Portfolio" (paper 90–2).

Fish and wildlife issues

On the fish and wildlife side, the Council adopted an amendment schedule for the fish and wildlife program and entered rulemaking to consider proposed changes to the protected areas designations. (See news items.) The Council also decided to contact Congress about additional actions needed to address the ocean drift-net fishery. ■



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New publications

(90–5) Staff Issue Paper: Research, Development and Demonstration Agendas for Renewable Resources.

(90–6) Staff Briefing Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Rehabilitation Activities.

NOTE: The previously announced paper 89–50, "Executive Summary of Subbasin Plans for Areas above Bonneville Dam" will not be available.

Previously announced publications

(90–4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

(90–3) 1990 Proposed Amendments to Update Protected Areas Designations.

(90–2) Staff Briefing Paper: Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio.

(90–1) Staff Issue Paper: New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects. Formerly titled "Generation Resources Supply."

(89–49) Staff Issue Paper: Planning Assumptions for Direct Service Industries' Loads.

(89–48) Staff Issue Paper: Existing Resources and Power Transactions.

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(89–43) Staff Issue Paper: Nuclear Resources.

(89–42) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Voltage Regulation.

(89–41) Staff Issue Paper: Biomass Resources.

(89–40) Staff Issue Paper: Wind Resources.

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Council Member Working Committees: March 27, 28 and 29 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Group: March 7 and April 4, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: March 7 and April 4, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: March 6 and April 3, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Research Development and Demonstration Advisory Committee: March 1 and April 27, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland. ■

In this issue:

- Federal budgets send mixed messages to the Northwest
- Washington adopts the model conservation standards
- Hearings to be held on protected areas amendments
- Agenda for the March 14–15 Council meeting

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Northwest Power Planning Council

Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers.

April 16 ▪ *Updating Protected Areas Designations (paper 90–3).*

April 20 ▪ *Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources (paper 90–5). Note the deadline has changed.*

April 27 ▪ *New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects (paper 90–1).*

May 25 ▪ *Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities (paper 90–6).*

For more information:

Public Information & Involvement Division,
Northwest Power Planning Council,
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue
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503–222–5161

Toll Free Phone:
1–800–452–2324 *(Oregon)*
1–800–222–3355 *(Idaho, Montana, Washington)*

FAX number 1–503–222–9246

Action agendas for renewables

The Northwest Power Planning Council is asking for public comment on actions intended to ensure that geothermal, solar and wind generating resources can be developed cost-effectively in the Northwest when they are needed.

Unfortunately there are significant unknowns associated with these resources. The Council estimates that 350 average megawatts of geothermal energy are available for development at costs less than 15 cents per kilowatt-hour. But substantially larger amounts may be available at attractive costs from unconfirmed sources.

There are 400 average megawatts of wind energy available for development at costs under 15 cents per kilowatt-hour, while additional wind energy may be available from Montana resources if technical, environmental and institutional questions can be resolved.

Solar electric generation may also contribute to regional power needs if its costs continue to decline.

The Council's research development and demonstration advisory committee developed a list of proposed actions designed to resolve these uncertainties. These actions are listed in an issue paper, "Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources (90–5)." Please call the Council's Portland office for a copy.

The Council is particularly interested in comment on the following issues:

1. The need for and priority of the proposed actions.
2. Alternative approaches to achieving the objectives of the actions.
3. Possible methods of implementing the proposed actions.
4. Estimated costs, schedules and other aspects of the proposals or alternatives. ▪▪

New power plan status report: resource portfolio

The Northwest Power Planning Council has completed its analysis of how much of the various resources is available for what price (the supply curves) and is now examining what resources should be developed and when. This analysis is known as the draft resource portfolio.

The portfolio will describe the energy investments the region should make to get a reliable power supply for the least cost during the next 20 years. It also provides a schedule based on economic growth for bringing new energy resources on line.

In developing this analysis, the Council's staff has been working closely with the Bonneville Power Administration and the system planning committee of the Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee.

The Council will be briefed on the progress of this analysis at its monthly meetings this spring and may suggest additional alternatives to study. The draft resource portfolio is scheduled to be ready for public comment this summer as part of the new draft power plan. ▪▪

PLEASE RETURN

Umatilla hatchery ground breaking

At 10:30 a.m. on April 16, ground will be broken to begin construction of a new fish hatchery in eastern Oregon's Umatilla Basin.

The hatchery will be located adjacent to the existing Irrigon Hatchery at Irrigon, Oregon, near the Columbia River. It will produce spring and fall chinook salmon and steelhead trout.

Speakers at the ground breaking ceremony will include Ted Hallock, Oregon member of the Council, and representatives from the Umatilla tribes, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Bonneville Power Administration and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Before the turn of the century, the Umatilla River Basin had large salmon and steelhead runs. But irrigation and other developments blocked fish passage and reduced stream flows and habitat, leaving the fishery greatly depleted. The construction of dams on the Columbia added to the problem by making passage in that river nearly as difficult as it is in the Umatilla.

In an unprecedented cooperative effort, Indian tribes, state and federal fish and wildlife agencies and power agencies worked out a plan to rebuild the Umatilla River fishery. Their proposal for a hatchery for the basin was approved by the Council and included in its fish and wildlife program. ∷

Interim demand forecasts

A recent joint interim forecast made by the Northwest Power Planning Council and the Bonneville Power Administration suggests that the region's demand for electrical power could climb 13,000 megawatts by the year 2010, up from the 16,621 megawatts it consumed in 1988, if high economic growth occurs. That means demand could grow by an amount equal to the power consumed by 12 cities the size of Seattle. Medium-low to medium-high economic growth during that period—which is more likely—would translate into a 2,400-megawatt to 7,800-megawatt increase in regional demand, compared with 1988.

A forecast of how much power the four Northwest states will use over the next 20 years is a fundamental part of the Council's regional planning. At the most basic level, a forecast suggests the size of regional energy demand in the future. But it also explores what rates of uncertainty may surround future energy-demand growth, and how conservation efforts, new resource technologies or changing energy prices may affect that growth.

This year's updated figures suggest that the region's demand for energy will grow at a slower pace over the next two decades than in years past. The region's appetite for energy likely will grow between 0.6 percent and 1.8 percent a year. That compares with yearly growth rates of 7 percent in the 1950s and 1960s, 4 percent in the 1970s and 1 percent in the volatile 1980s, a decade in which demand was relatively stagnant until 1986, after which it grew at a 4-percent annual pace.

This slower growth rate is expected to come as the active regional economy of the late 1980s and early 1990s cools. Conservation and more efficient new buildings also will dampen demand growth. So too will competition from natural gas, whose relatively low price will continue to make it an attractive heating alternative to electricity. In addition, power use by the region's traditional heavy users of electricity—the paper, wood products, aluminum, chemicals and food products industries—isn't expected to grow as much as in previous years. ∷

Northwest Energy Code meetings

Northwest building officials are currently studying proposals for changes to the commercial and residential portions of the 1988 edition of the Northwest Energy Code. As part of this work, the Bonneville Power Administration has scheduled code development meetings in Portland, Oregon, on April 26 and 27 and in Spokane, Washington, on May 10. Anyone may attend and testify at the meetings. The Portland meeting will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the NOAA conference room, 6th floor, Holladay Building, 1002 N.E. Holladay, Portland, Oregon. A location has not yet been set for the Spokane meeting.

Proposed code changes may be obtained from Susan McKay, Northwest Office of the International Conference of Building Officials, at 206-451-9541. ∷

AGENDA

Council Meeting 150

April 11–12, 1990 – 9 a.m.

Eugene Hilton
East Sixth Avenue, Eugene, Oregon
(503) 342–2000

April 11

1. **Staff Presentation on Preliminary Resource Portfolio:** Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division; and Tom Foley, manager, conservation and resource assessment.
2. **Review of Eugene Water and Electric Board and Bonneville Power Administration Bond Financing Agreement to Fund Conservation:** Garry Kunkel, director of power management; and Mat Northway, energy management services manager, Eugene Water and Electric Board.
3. **Public Comment on Staff Issue Paper on New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects** *(request paper 90–1).*
4. **Public Comment on Staff Issue Paper on Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources** *(request paper 90–5).*

April 12

5. **Staff Presentation on Willamette River System Planning Issues:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; John Marsh, system planning coordinator; and Jim Ruff, hydrologist.
6. **Public Comment on Staff Issue Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities** *(request paper 90–6).*
7. **Public Hearing on Updating Protected Areas Designations Rulemaking** *(request paper 90–3). Scheduled for approximately 11 a.m.*
8. **Council Business:**
   - Adoption of minutes
9. **Public Comment:**
   - Will follow each item
   - Any other issues

UPDATE!

Volunteer fisheries rehabilitation

Northwest Power Planning Council staff have researched regional and national examples of volunteers and students whose efforts have improved their area's fisheries. Thousands of individuals have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in materials, labor and support of fisheries rehabilitation projects. They have improved thousands of miles of stream habitat by adding logs and other structures to streams, fencing off streambanks and reducing discharges of contaminants into water. They have also increased fish production in regional streams and educated people about the fishery. Many groups and classes even operate small hatcheries to reseed local waters.

One reason the Council is interested in these activities is because the degree to which volunteer efforts are productive may hinge on their coordination. Even well-meaning efforts can be counterproductive if they do not consider the impacts on other activities. For example, adding hatchery fish to a stream can be a major way to rebuild a run. On the other hand, in some cases, the addition of hatchery fish can actually pose a threat to existing wild runs.

The Council is also interested for economic reasons. The Northwest Power Act obligates the Council to seek the least expensive solution to a biological problem. It is entirely possible that volunteers may come up with innovative and more economical ways to rehabilitate a fishery. In such cases, their work will be a valuable supplement to the efforts of professional fishery managers.

The Council is currently seeking public comment on whether and to what degree it should focus on these activities. An issue paper on volunteer and educational activities is being distributed for comment. To receive a copy request publication 90-6 from the Council's Portland office. ∎∎

Protected areas amendments

A public hearing on proposed changes to the Council's protected areas designations will be held at 11 a.m. on April 12 as part of the Eugene, Oregon, Council meeting. (Hearings were held in March in the other Northwest states.)

The Council adopted the protected areas designations in August 1988 to protect approximately 44,000 miles of streams and rivers with important fish and/or wildlife habitat from hydropower development.

The designations were based on stream-reach data collected by the four Northwest states. The Council anticipated revisions as data improved, and it provided a process for technical corrections. That process is now being used to consider these proposed changes.

To receive a list of the proposed changes, request paper 90-3 from the Council. (Please note that the FERC identification number for the project on Martin Creek in King County, Washington is incorrect and should be 10212.)

Written comment on these changes will be accepted until 5 p.m., Monday, April 16, 1990. Please send comment to the Council's central office in Portland. ∎∎

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Council met in Missoula, Montana on March 14–15. This is a synopsis of that meeting.

Council staff presented proposed agendas for confirming three renewable resources: geothermal, wind and solar (paper 90-5). "Confirming" means actions to prove the availability, performance, cost, environmental and other relevant characteristics of these resources for producing electricity. (See separate story.)

No preliminary analysis was available at this meeting on the draft resource portfolio, but Power Planning Director Jim Litchfield sketched out a general concept of how the new power plan may be organized. He said the staff was considering a two-part action plan. The first part would focus on short-term decisions for the 1990s, while the second part would include actions needed in the longer term after the turn of the century.

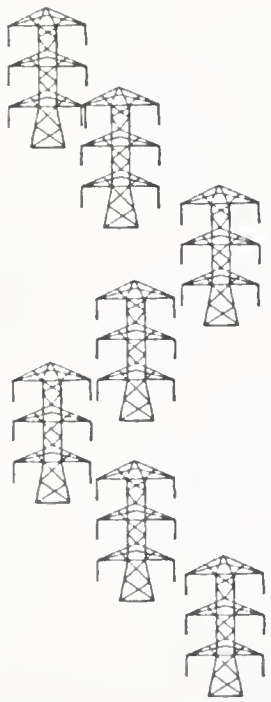
The staff is fine-tuning the 20-year forecast of demand for electrical power. Because the forecasts interact with the Council's resource analysis, the fine-tuning will continue throughout development of the resource portfolio. For example, since specific resources haven't been selected for the portfolio, the forecasters could only estimate resource costs. The costs of specific resources ultimately selected can affect demand for electricity, although the changes in demand are not expected to be large. (See news item for more information.)

In the only decision of the meeting, the Council voted to approve guidelines for determining when sales of additional electricity to existing direct service industries (those that buy power directly from the Bonneville Power Administration) are consistent with the Council's power plan. These guidelines are avail-

able to interested parties.

Council discussion on a letter commenting on Bonneville's Draft Resource Acquisition Approaches Plan was deferred. The Council also allowed opportunity for public comment on current issue papers.

The staff made a presentation on the current status of system planning and what is expected to occur in the future (paper 90–7). Later this summer, fishery agencies and tribes will submit an Integrated System Plan for amendment into the fish and wildlife program. A presentation was also made on volunteer fishery rehabilitation activities (paper 90–6). See news item. A hearing on proposed changes in protected areas status was held in conjunction with the meeting (paper 90–3). ■



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New publications

(90–7) Staff Briefing Paper: Salmon and Steelhead System Planning Status Report.

Previously announced publications

(90–6) Staff Issue Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities.

(90–5) Staff Issue Paper: Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90–4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

(90–3) 1990 Proposed Amendments to Update the Protected Areas Designations.

(90–2) Staff Briefing Paper: Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio.

(90–1) Staff Issue Paper: New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects.

(89–49) Staff Issue Paper: Planning Assumptions for Direct Service Industries' Loads.

(89–48) Staff Issue Paper: Existing Resources and Power Transactions.

(89–47) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Supply for the 1990 Power Plan.

(89–46) Staff Issue Paper: Solar Electric Resources.

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(89–43) Staff Issue Paper: Nuclear Resources.

(89–42) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Voltage Regulation.

(89–41) Staff Issue Paper: Biomass Resources.

(89–40) Staff Issue Paper: Wind Resources.

(89–39) Staff Issue Paper: Assessment of the Potential for the Direct Application of Renewable Resources.

(89–38) Staff Issue Paper: Non–aluminum Industrial Sector Conservation.

(89–37) Staff Issue Paper: Better Use of the Hydropower System.

(89–36) Staff Issue Paper: Geothermal Resources.

(89–29) Staff Issue Paper: Transmission and Distribution System Loss Reduction.

(89–1) 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

(89–1A) Appendices: 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

1986 Northwest Power Plan. The 20–year electrical power plan for the Northwest.

1987 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. ■

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Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call the toll-free telephone numbers listed in this publication to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: April 11–12 at the Eugene Hilton in Eugene, Oregon. May 9–10 at the Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, Idaho. June 13–14 in Spokane, Washington. July 11–12 at the Outlaw Inn, Kalispell, Montana. August 8–9 in Oregon.

Council Member Working Committees: April 24, 25 and 26 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Group: April 4 and May 2, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: April 4 and May 2, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: April 3 and May 1, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Research Development and Demonstration Advisory Committee: April 27, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

In this issue:

- Action on renewable resources
- Status of the new power plan
- Protected areas amendments
- Electricity demand forecast for next 20 years
- Volunteer fisheries activities
- Synopsis of March 14–15 Council meeting
- Agenda for April 11–12 Council meeting

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Volume 7, Number 5

May 1990

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Northwest Power Planning Council

Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

May 25 ▪ *Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities (paper 90–6).*

June 15 ▪ *Draft Council FY 1992 and Revised FY 1991 Budget (paper 90–8)*

For more information:

Public Information & Involvement Division,
Northwest Power Planning Council,
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
503–222–5161

Toll Free Phone:
1–800–452–2324 *(Oregon)*
1–800–222–3355 *(Idaho, Montana, Washington)*

FAX number 1–503–222–9246

New power plan status report: the Action Plan

At its May meeting in Idaho Falls, the Northwest Power Planning Council will continue developing the resource portfolio and the Action Plan for the Draft 1990 Power Plan—the 20–year electricity plan for the Northwest.

The resource portfolio has been discussed at previous meetings this spring. It describes the energy investments and schedule the Northwest should follow to get a reliable electricity supply for the least economic and environmental cost. The portfolio also provides a schedule for bringing new energy resources online depending upon the growth in demand for electricity.

Discussion on the Action Plan will begin at this upcoming meeting. The Action Plan establishes near–term objectives to ensure that the region actually achieves the goal of a least–cost energy future. It will consist of a set of actions for the Bonneville Power Administration and the Council, and recommended actions for investor–owned utilities and utility commissions.

These actions will likely include research and development of promising resources, development of procedures for acquiring new generating resources and the operation of support programs to encourage achieving the region's conservation potential.

This summer, the Council will release for public review a draft of the entire new power plan. Comment on this draft plan will be taken over an extended period, and public hearings will be held in each Northwest state (Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington). These comments will then be integrated into the final plan which is scheduled for adoption late in 1990. ■

Idaho adopts new building standards

Idaho's Governor Andrus recently signed into law new minimum residential construction standards designed to increase energy efficiency in new homes.

The new law creates statewide construction standards for energy conservation, specifying minimum insulation requirements. After it goes into effect January 1, 1991, utilities will be prohibited from serving new homes that have not obtained permits guaranteeing compliance with the standards.

These new standards will provide nearly 60 percent of the efficiency obtained by the Council's model conservation standards. Jim Goller, Idaho Council member, sees the new standards as a significant step toward the eventual statewide adoption of the Council's model conservation standards and toward establishing energy efficiency in Idaho's homes. Efficient building standards will delay the future need for expensive thermal generating plants. ■

Note: The Council will be closed on May 28, 1990, for Memorial Day.

PLEASE RETURN

BPA honored for achievements

Earth Day 1990 was a special day this year for the Bonneville Power Administration. As part of the celebrations, Bonneville was honored by the Natural Resources Defense Council for a decade of environmental achievement. The Defense Council is a leading voice of the environmental movement.

The award was presented by Ralph Cavanagh, senior staff attorney for the council and head of its energy program. He said, "The Bonneville Power Administration had demonstrated its commitment to the environment in three major ways: through its focus on energy conservation, through environmentally sensitive resource planning, and through programs that allow public involvement in key decisions. More than any other large utility in the 1980s, Bonneville has been a model of the competitive but socially responsible institution." ■

OSU fish disease laboratory opened

A new regional fish disease laboratory in Corvallis, Oregon was dedicated in April. The lab will be the site of research on the detection, prevention and control of infectious diseases in wild and hatchery salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River Basin. Disease is a major problem in the basin, and the Northwest Power Planning Council has asked that research focus on the problem.

The lab is being funded by the Bonneville Power Administration and Oregon State University. ■

Willamette River temperature control studies

The Willamette River Subbasin produces a major portion of the Columbia Basin's salmon and steelhead runs. Unfortunately, the production of spring chinook salmon has been limited by changes in water temperature caused by the operation of Corps of Engineers' dams on the tributaries.

These dams release water that is often either too cold or warm, depending on the time of year. The unnatural temperatures hinder juvenile fish incubation and rearing as well as adult migration and spawning.

At its April 11-12 meeting in Eugene, Oregon, the Northwest Power Planning Council reviewed the history of this issue and decided to send letters to General Pat Stevens, division engineer at the Corps of Engineers, and to members of the Oregon congressional delegation. The letters point out the Council's interest in expediting Willamette River temperature control studies and in ensuring that the Corps retains in its budget adequate funding ($314,000) to complete the reconnaissance phase of its Willamette Basin Study in Fiscal Year 1991.

The Council also has asked Congress for specific congressional report language and an additional $600,000 per year for each of the next two fiscal years to enable the Corps to conclude evaluations and expedite the installation of temperature control facilities at Detroit, Blue River and Cougar dams.

History of the studies

At the recommendation of the fisheries agencies and tribes, the Council's 1982 Fish and Wildlife Program called for studies to identify remedies and implement solutions to the water temperature problems in the Willamette River Basin.

The Corps of Engineers' Willamette System Temperature Control Study was initiated in late 1982 to address these concerns. It found that, while the projects have had little adverse impact on flow regimes, they have adversely affected downstream water conditions in both the Santiam and McKenzie rivers, tributaries to the Willamette. These tributaries are the most important remaining habitat for naturally spwaning spring chinook in the Willamette River Basin.

The study also found that it is technically possible to restore the temperatures to pre-project conditions by installing selective withdrawal facilities at various large, high-head dams.

In 1989, the Corps' study was terminated prior to completion. The Corps is now proposing additional temperature control studies as part of its newly authorized Willamette River Basin Review Study. Under the Corps' current schedule, federal interest in funding the facilities would not be determined for 18 months. If there is interest in installing temperature control devices, it would then take 3 to 4 years to complete feasibility studies, plus another 3 to 4 years for construction activities.

The draft Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's 1990 Willamette Subbasin Plan identifies water temperature problems as a priority to be addressed in the basin. The Department is interested in using temperature control to enhance natural production in the Willamette Basin. ■

AGENDA

Council Meeting 151

May 9–10, 1990 – 9 a.m.

Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, Idaho

780 Lindsay Boulevard, (208) 523–0088

May 9, 1990

1. **Council Open Discussion:** Informal discussion among Council members in which no substantive decision will be made.
2. **Staff Presentation and Council Discussion on Revised Resource Portfolio for the Draft 1990 Power Plan:** Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division; and Pete Swartz, system analyst.
3. **Staff Presentation and Council Discussion on the Draft 1990 Action Plan:** Jim Litchfield and Tom Foley, manager, conservation and resource assessment.
4. **Staff Presentation on Council's Draft Fiscal Year 1992 and 1991 Revised Budget:** Edward Sheets, executive director *(request paper 90–8).*
5. **Council Business:**
   - Adoption of minutes

May 10, 1990

6. **Staff Presentation on Salmon River System Planning Issues:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; John Marsh, system planning coordinator; and Chip McConnaha, systems ecologist.
7. **Briefing on Yakima/Klickitat Production Project:** Joe Blum, Washington Department of Fisheries; Curt Smitch, Washington Department of Wildlife; Levi George, Yakima Indian Nation; John Palensky and Tom Clune, Bonneville Power Administration; and Roy Sampsel, state and tribal project leader.
8. **Public Comment on Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Rehabilitation Activities** *(request paper 90–6).*
9. **Public Comment:**
   - Will follow each item
   - Any other issues

UPDATE!

National energy strategy report released by DOE

On April 2, Secretary of Energy James D. Watkins announced the completion of the first phase—the information gathering phase—in the development of a national energy strategy. He also released for public comment the "Interim Report on the Development of a National Energy Strategy"—a compilation of public comment received since August on the strategy which President Bush has requested.

The Northwest Power Planning Council and many other groups had testified at hearings held on the strategy. Watkins reports that, "The public record [from these hearings] contains strong and important messages, one of them being that energy efficiency was seen as a way to reduce pollution, reduce dependence on oil imports and reduce the cost of energy."

Copies of the interim report may be obtained by contacting: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Public Inquiries, Room 1E-206, Mail Stop PA-5, Washington, D.C. 20585, 202-586-6540. ■

1990 directory now available

The Northwest Power Planning Council's 1990 Directory of Organizations is now available. It describes and contains addresses for organizations involved with the Council's work or in related areas.

To order a copy, call the Council's Portland office. ■

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Eugene, Oregon on April 11-12. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

Power planning issues

Power Planning Director Jim Litchfield presented results of the first computer runs of the resource portfolio analysis for the new power plan. The portfolio integrates all resources that have been judged available and cost-effective, and displays them in a sequence of priority ranking. It also provides a schedule for bringing these resources online.

Noting that the early results showed a substantial portion of large, central station thermal plants, Litchfield emphasized that the first runs were very preliminary and that the computer had ranked resources in straight economic order, without consideration for a number of other issues. These issues include the political feasibility of building resources, non-quantifiable environmental costs, and risk factors associated with long lead times and large capital investments. These considerations will call for judgment and policy decisions on the part of the Council before the portfolio is finalized.

The portfolio only shows resources that are confirmed at this time, and is intended to be a flexible document. As new and better resources become available and cost-effective, they will displace those that are now in the portfolio. The portfolio, along with an Action Plan, will be released for public review this summer as part of the Council's draft power plan.

The Council next heard representatives of the Eugene Water and Electric Board describe their utility's agreement with the Bonneville Power Administration for funding conservation with tax-free bonds. The Council has been encouraged by the success of this program and hopes to focus attention on this method of encouraging conservation. The Eugene utility issued $15 million in tax-free bonds in 1985 to fund conservation programs with Bonneville agreeing to cover the debt service. The utility's bond rate, which is lower than the rate Bonneville pays to the U.S. treasury, resulted in savings of $1.8 million in financing charges. A further advantage is that the funding did not draw on Bonneville's limited borrowing authority.

The Council also heard public testimony on two issue papers. The first addressed new resources and their environmental effects (paper 90-1), and the second covered agendas for developing renewable resources (paper 90-5).

Fish and wildlife issues

The staff described issues surrounding planning for the Willamette River, and the Council voted to make its concerns about some of those issues known in letters to Oregon's congressional delegation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. (See separate story.)

The Council also heard testimony on volunteer activities to rehabilitate the fisheries throughout the Columbia Basin (paper 90-6). Groups testifying included the Adopt-a-Stream Foundation, the Association of Northwest Steelheaders, Portland General Electric and the Governor's Water Enhancement Board. The Council is working to assess the extent of these activities and to determine the role, if any, it should play in volunteer efforts.

The last of a series of public hearings in each state was held in conjunction with the meeting. Its purpose was to hear public views on proposed amendments to "protected areas." Protected areas are portions of streams that have been designated off limits to hydropower development because of their importance to fish and/or wildlife. ■

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NOTE: When requesting a publication, use the number (listed first) if the paper has been assigned one.

New publications

(90–8) Draft Northwest Power Planning Council Fiscal Year 1992 Budget and Fiscal Year 1991 Revised Budget.

Directory of Organizations: April 1990.

Previously announced publications

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Council Member Working Committees: May 22, 23 and 24 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

State Agency Advisory Committee: May 2, at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Wildlife Advisory Committee: May 3, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. This is the first meeting of this committee. Call the Council to receive agendas regularly, if interested.

System Planning Group: May 2 and June 6, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: May 2 and June 6, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: May 31, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

In this issue:

- Action Plan status
- Idaho adopts new building standards
- BPA honored
- Willamette Basin temperature studies
- National energy strategy report released by DOE
- Synopsis of April 11–12 Council meeting
- Agenda for May 9–10 Council meeting

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Northwest Power Planning Council

Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

June 15 • *Draft Council Fiscal Year 1992 and Revised Fiscal Year 1991 Budget (paper 90–8).*

July 2 • *Yakima Production Project: Review of Preliminary Design Report (paper 90–9).*

For more information:

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Suite 1100
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503–222–5161

Toll Free Phone:
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1–800–222–3355 *(Idaho, Montana, Washington)*
FAX number 1–503–222–9246

Update on the new power plan

The Northwest Power Planning Council is now in the final stages of developing the resource portfolio and the Action Plan for the draft 1990 Power Plan—the 20-year electricity plan for the Northwest.

Resource portfolio status

The Council is continuing its work developing the resource portfolio, including refining resource development priorities and constraints and analyzing the timing of various resource decisions.

When finalized, the resource portfolio will provide a blueprint for the region, indicating a direction and schedule for meeting a growing demand for electricity.

As of mid-May, the preliminary resource portfolio shows that if the Northwest experiences medium levels of electric load growth, conservation, efficiency improvements and renewable resources will meet the region's needs through the year 2000. If loads grow more quickly, however, the region will need to turn to other resource alternatives, including nuclear and coal options before 2000.

The portfolio is only a snapshot of the current situation. It identifies what would be developed if all resources had to be acquired right now. Fortunately, they don't. The Council anticipates that other, better and cheaper resources will be available as technologies improve and developers come up with innovative solutions. The main purpose of the portfolio is to provide a measurement against which all emerging resources must compete.

Action Plan status

The Action Plan, by far the most critical component of the power plan, will describe what the region needs to do right now and in the next five years to meet immediate resource needs and begin preparing for future needs. It will consist of a set of actions for the Bonneville Power Administration and the Council and recommended actions for investor-owned utilities and utility commissions.

At its May meeting, the Council discussed preliminary goals and objectives for the Action Plan. The proposed goal emphasizes the need to acquire cost-effective conservation, renewables and high-efficiency resources during the 1990s. Because other resources may be needed after 2000, the goal also includes the need to back up the region's electric power system with efforts to confirm the viability of other nuclear and coal options.

To this end, the first proposed objective for the Action Plan calls for actions to develop conservation and efficiency improvements in the existing system to meet mid-level load growth through 2001. A second objective proposes to develop renewable and high-efficiency resources as needed. A third proposed objective of the Action Plan is to see that the region is prepared to bring new central station thermal plants online after 2001 if higher load growth materializes.

Working from these goals and objectives, the Council and staff will determine what specific actions must occur to ensure that the Northwest has the electricity that it needs. ■

PLEASE RETURN

Yakima/Klickitat Production Project

The Northwest Power Planning Council is asking for comment on the Yakima River portion of the preliminary design report for the Yakima/Klickitat Production Project.

The project in central Washington's Yakima River Basin involves the release of hatchery fish to supplement natural fish production and enhance the salmon and steelhead fisheries. Work in this basin has been featured in the Council's fish and wildlife program since the first program was adopted in 1982. Improving salmon and steelhead production was given a high priority in the program, because the Yakima Basin contains miles of good quality spawning and rearing habitat and depressed native runs of spring chinook and summer steelhead. The program has also provided for improving passage at irrigation diversion dams to complement the proposed project.

Because of the area's potential for natural fish propagation, plans have been developed for a hatchery and outplanting facilities to supplement the natural production in the Yakima and Klickitat basins. This production project will test the assumption that new artificial fish production can be used to increase harvest and enhance natural production while maintaining the genetic resources of the fish populations. The project is expected to contribute from 76,000 to 175,000 adult salmon and steelhead to the Columbia Basin.

The Council is reviewing the preliminary design report to determine if the project is still consistent with Council policies and if tasks that the Council had requested were adequately addressed. A briefing paper (paper 90-9) is available that describes the report and summarizes the Council's areas of interest. Comment on this paper is being taken through July 2.

The Council is seeking comment specifically on the following issues:

- Is there new information that indicates the project should not proceed to final design and construction?
- Given the acknowledged genetic risks, is it appropriate to proceed with the project? Would it be more appropriate to manage the Yakima Basin for wild fish?
- A key purpose of the project is to increase knowledge of supplementation. Is the information that will result from this effort still needed and not available from other sources?
- Could a smaller experiment be conducted with possibly less cost and risk to the wild stocks in the Yakima Basin?
- If the Council approves the construction of the project, Bonneville will be spending about $31.9 million for capital construction and an estimated $23 million for research, monitoring and evaluation through 1997. Is this expenditure appropriate in the Yakima River Subbasin at this time considering other fish restoration needs that exist in the Columbia Basin?
- If the project must be scaled back to reduce the overall cost, what species/stocks or activities could be reduced? ■

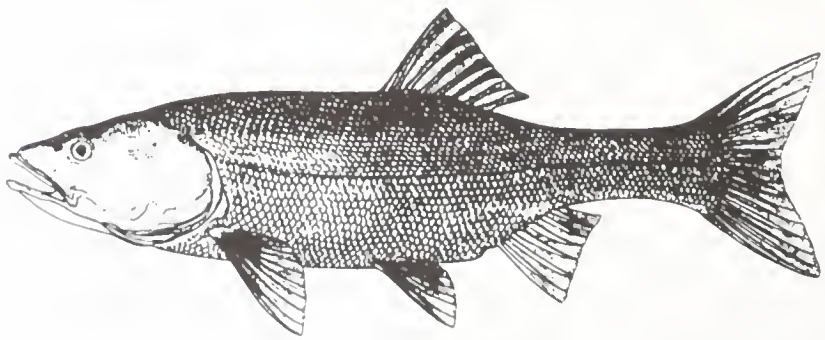
Squawfish control study under way

Northern squawfish are a predator fish estimated to eat about 2 million young salmon and steelhead each year in the John Day Reservoir alone. To combat this problem, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bonneville Power Administration are conducting a predation control study, under the auspices of the Council's Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

The study is looking at how many fish are eaten in the other 12 reservoirs in the Columbia and Snake rivers and if anything can be done to reduce the predation.

In the John Day Reservoir, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is conducting a three-part study to test whether enough northern squawfish can be removed to reduce their predation. Three types of fisheries are being tested this year, In one, biologists are fishing with hook and line off several dams. In another, three tribal commercial fishers are fishing with longlines in the John Day reservoir. And in the third, a $1 per squawfish reward will be given to volunteer anglers who sign up and catch northern squawfish in John Day Reservoir.

On June 24, the Council is giving legislators from Idaho, Washington, Oregon and Montana a briefing on the study. The legislators will also participate in the volunteer fishery. ■



NORTHERN SQUAWFISH

AGENDA

Council Meeting 152

June 13–14, 1990 – 9 a.m.

Ridpath Hotel (509) 838-2711
West 515 Spraque Avenue, Spokane, Washington

June 13

1. **General Council Discussion:** No final actions will be taken during this discussion; issues requiring a Council decision will be placed on a future agenda.
2. **Council Deliberation on Draft Resource Portfolio for 1990 Power Plan and Draft 1990 Action Plan:** Edward Sheets, executive director; Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division; and Tom Foley, manager, conservation and resource assessment.
3. **Consultation with State Energy Facility Siting Councils:** Curt Eschels, chairman, Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council; David Stewart–Smith, administrator, Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council; Al Davis, chief of planning and analysis bureau, Energy Division, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; and Marsha Smith, external affairs, Idaho Public Utility Commission. (Wednesday, 3 p.m.)

June 14

4. **Consultation with Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee Board Members on Resource Selection:** Representatives of the Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee's Board of Directors. (Thursday, 9 a.m.)
5. **Council Briefing on Mid–Columbia System Planning Issues:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; and John Marsh, system planning coordinator.
6. **Staff Presentation and Public Comment on the Yakima Production Project:** Rick Applegate; and Harry Wagner, planning associate *(request paper 90–9)*.
7. **Public Comment on Council's Fiscal Year 1991 and Fiscal Year 1990 Revised Budget** *(request paper 90–8)*.
8. **Council Business:**
   - Resolution regarding energy efficiency in new manufactured housing
   - Adoption of minutes
9. **Public Comment:**
   - Will follow each item
   - Any other issues

UPDATE!

Snake River Basin fishery issues

At their last meeting, the Northwest Power Planning Council discussed key issues affecting salmon and steelhead in Idaho's Snake River Basin.

The Snake Basin once produced healthy runs of sockeye, chinook and steelhead. The Salmon River, a tributary to the Snake, is one of the few remaining areas in the Columbia River Basin that still could produce sockeye. Unfortunately, last year very few sockeye made the long migration back up into Idaho. In fact, some scientists argue that the very small numbers of sockeye in the Salmon River make them, for all practical purposes, extinct. Recently the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe petitioned the National Marine Fisheries Service to list the Salmon River sockeye as an endangered species.

On a related topic, the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority has proposed increasing flows in the Columbia River Basin to help these and other stocks. These flows would increase the water budget—a block of water the Council has designated to be released every spring to flush juvenile salmon and steelhead down the river to the ocean, just as the spring runoff did before the dams were constructed. The Council has requested information from the Authority summarizing the knowledge gained from water budget implementation to date and detailing the biological basis of the Authority's flow proposal.

Last, the Council directed staff to catalog and analyze other potential alternatives to provide water budget flows in the Snake River Basin. ■■

Goodwill Games: energy conference

In conjunction with the 1990 Goodwill Games in Seattle this summer, the Northwest Power Planning Council has invited leading experts from the United States and the Soviet Union to meet and discuss energy conservation and least-cost energy planning.

This conference will be held on July 23–27, 1990, at 9 a.m. at the Stouffer-Madison Hotel, 515 Madison Street, Seattle, Washington. The conference is open to the public, but on a first-come basis. Space will be limited. ■■

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Idaho Falls, Idaho on May 9–10. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

The meeting began with an informal discussion among the Council members on several topics including the role of the Council in resource acquisitions, the Bonneville Power Administration's environmental impact statement procedures on Columbia River system operations, anticipated increases in the federal energy standards for manufactured housing and the possibility of moving the Council's headquarters to a more central location in the region. No final actions were taken during this discussion, and issues requiring a Council decision will be placed on a future agenda.

Power planning issues

Continuing with the development of the 1990 Power Plan, staff presented additional results of the resource portfolio analysis and the Council began discussion on the Action Plan. The resource portfolio integrates all resources that have been judged available and cost-effective, and displays them in a sequence of priority ranking. It also provides a schedule for bringing these resources online. The Action Plan establishes near-term objectives to ensure that the region actually achieves the goal of a least-cost energy future. See the news story for more information on the resource portfolio and the Action Plan.

Fish and wildlife issues

On the second day of the meeting, the Council discussed various system planning issues related to the Salmon River system and was briefed on the status of the Yakima/Klickitat Production Project. See news stories on these two items.

The Council also heard testimony on volunteer activities to rehabilitate fisheries throughout the Columbia River Basin (paper 90–6).

Other issues

Staff presented the preliminary draft Council budget for Fiscal Year 1992 and the revised budget for Fiscal Year 1991 (paper 90–8). The proposed 1991 budget of $7,527,000 has been reduced by $14,000 from what was initially adopted in 1989. The 1992 budget of $7,793,000 is a current-level service budget. Public comment is being taken on the budget through June 15, 1990, with a Council decision expected at the July meeting. ■■

Publications available

Order publications from Judi Hertz, public involvement division, telephone number 503-222-5161, toll free: 1-800-452-2324 in Oregon or 1-800-222-3355 in Idaho, Montana or Washington. (Not all publications are available immediately, but they will be sent to you as soon as possible.)

NOTE: to simplify ordering items, each issue paper is assigned a number. When requesting a publication, use either the number (listed first) or the title.

New publications

(90-9) Yakima Production Project: Review of Preliminary Design Report.

Previously announced publications

Directory of Organizations: April 1990.

(90-8) Draft Northwest Power Planning Council Fiscal Year 1992 Budget and Fiscal Year 1991 Revised Budget.

(90-7) Staff Briefing Paper: Salmon and Steelhead System Planning Status Report.

(90-6) Staff Issue Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities.

(90-5) Staff Issue Paper: Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90-4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

(90-2) Staff Briefing Paper: Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio.

(90-1) Staff Issue Paper: New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects.

(89-49) Staff Issue Paper: Planning Assumptions for Direct Service Industries' Loads.

(89-48) Staff Issue Paper: Existing Resources and Power Transactions.

(89-47) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Supply for the 1990 Power Plan.

(89-46) Staff Issue Paper: Solar Electric Resources.

(89-45) Staff Issue Paper: Potential Cogeneration Resources in the Pacific Northwest.

(89-44) Staff Issue Paper: Coal-fired Generating Resources.

(89-43) Staff Issue Paper: Nuclear Resources.

(89-42) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Voltage Regulation.

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(89-40) Staff Issue Paper: Wind Resources.

(89-39) Staff Issue Paper: Assessment of the Potential for the Direct Application of Renewable Resources.

(89-38) Staff Issue Paper: Non-aluminum Industrial Sector Conservation.

(89-37) Staff Issue Paper: Better Use of the Hydropower System.

(89-36) Staff Issue Paper: Geothermal Resources.

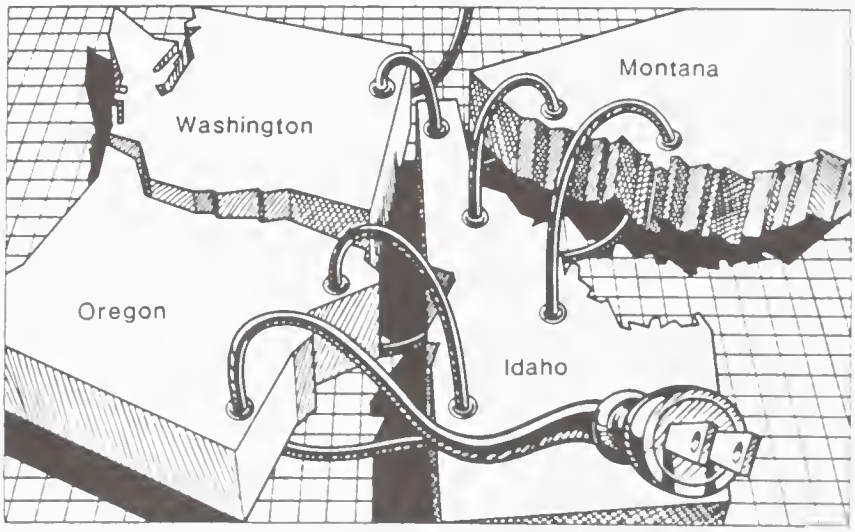
(89-29) Staff Issue Paper: Transmission and Distribution System Loss Reduction.

(89-1) 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

(89-1A) Appendices: 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

1986 Northwest Power Plan. The 20-year electrical power plan for the Northwest.

1987 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. ■



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Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call the toll-free telephone numbers listed in this publication to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: **June 13–14** at the Westcoast Ridpath Hotel, Spokane, Washington. **July 11–12** at the Outlaw Inn, Kalispell, Montana. **August 8–9** in Oregon. **September 12–13** at Templin's Hotel in Post Falls, Idaho.

Council Member Working Session: June 26, 27 and 28 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

State Agency Advisory Committee: June 19 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Research, Development and Demonstration Advisory Committee: June 27 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. This will be in conjunction with the Council member working session.

Wildlife Advisory Committee: The committee may meet in late June. The date will be set when Idaho and Oregon complete their review of public comments and submit generic mitigation plans. Call the Council's central office for more information.

System Planning Group: June 6, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: June 6, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: June 28, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

In this issue:

- **Comments wanted on Yakima Production Project**
- **Salmon and Snake River fishery issues**
- **Update on new power plan status**
- **Squawfish predation study under way this summer**
- **Synopsis of May 9–10 Council meeting**
- **Agenda for June 13–14 Council meeting**

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July 1990

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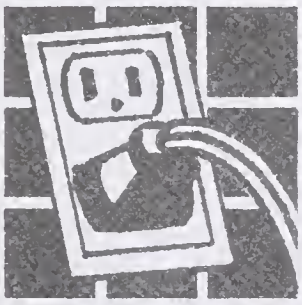
Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

July 16 ▪ *Yakima Production Project: Review of Preliminary Design Report (paper 90–9). NOTE: this comment deadline has been changed.*

Aug. 1 ▪ *Draft Tenth Annual Report of the Northwest Power Planning Council.*



For more information:

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Northwest Power Planning Council,
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
503–222–5161

Toll Free Phone:
1–800–452–2324 *(Oregon)*
1–800–222–3355 *(Idaho, Montana, Washington)*
FAX number 1–503–222–9246

Congress votes funds for NW fish

An appropriation of $17.5 million to fund fish screens and other fish bypass improvements on Columbia and Snake river dams was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives on June 19. The money is part of the 1991 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill. Senate action is expected in July.

Members of the Northwest Power Planning Council praised the Northwest congressional delegation led by Speaker of the House Tom Foley (Washington) for their strong consistent leadership in getting the appropriation through the House. Representatives Les AuCoin (Oregon) and Jolene Unsoeld (Washington) testified in support of the funds earlier before the House Appropriations Committee.

Until bypass screens are in place and operating effectively, fish–laden water must be spilled over the dams to protect young salmon and steelhead from the turbines. The spilled water can't be used to generate electricity, resulting in some $15 million of lost revenues to the power system. The bypass systems are essential for adequate fish protection. The sooner they are installed, the sooner fish survival can be improved and the cost to the electrical system be reduced.

The funds are earmarked for improvements at six dams operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — Lower Granite, Little Goose, McNary, Lower Monumental, The Dalles and Ice Harbor dams. Especially important is the $2.7 million added by the House Committee for new bypass systems at Ice Harbor and The Dalles dams. The executive budget had proposed to delay work at these two dams for at least two years while another federal mitigation study was developed. The House Committee rejected any further study and directed the Corps to continue progress on improvements at the two dams. ■

Manufactured housing targeted

More than a third of the Northwest's new housing may be missing an opportunity for energy efficiency at the very time that the region is running out of its electricity surplus.

That fact prompted the Northwest Planning Council to adopt, at its June meeting, a resolution urging the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to upgrade conservation standards for new manufactured housing in the Northwest. The Council called for standards equivalent to those adopted or under consideration for other residential construction in the region.

Last year, manufactured homes, formerly called mobile homes, made up 35 percent of all single–family, electrically heated housing starts in the Northwest. If these homes were to meet model conservation standards set by the Council, the energy savings over the next 20 years could equal the amount of electricity needed to supply a city of 50,000 people.

(continued on next page)

Note: Meeting notifications

The Council is compiling a list of people interested in receiving notices of agenda or meeting changes for Council meetings and open work sessions and notices of open consultations with interested organizations.

To be included in this "Council meeting" list, call the Council's public involvement division in the Portland office. Only those people on the list will be notified of changes and consultations. ■

The state of Washington adopted these standards into its housing code this past year, and Idaho, Oregon and Montana are also moving in that direction. But federal law pre-empts state codes from covering manufactured housing.

HUD is considering upgrading energy efficiency standards for manufactured housing, but preliminary proposals would achieve only 60 percent of the energy savings captured by the Council's standards. The Council is concerned that that level of savings is not enough and that the process has been too slow. Three years ago Congress directed HUD to upgrade standards for manufactured housing—standards that have not changed since 1975.

The Council's resolution calls on HUD to recognize the Northwest's unique conservation efforts and energy needs. It urges HUD to incorporate the Council's standards into HUD's codes for the region. ■■

Yakima Production Project changes

The deadline for written comment on issue paper 90–9, *Yakima Production Project: Review of Preliminary Design Report*, has been extended to 5 p.m. Monday, July 16.

In addition, Council members will hold an open consultation on the Yakima Production Project with interested parties on July 24. The time and location of this consultation have not yet been determined. Please call the Council's office for more information. ■■

Status report: Upper Columbia salmon & steelhead

The status of salmon and steelhead runs in the upper Columbia River Subbasin was the subject of a briefing the Northwest Power Planning Council received at its June meeting.

This area includes the Wenatchee, Methow, Okanogan and Entiat subbasins and the mainstem Columbia River between Priest Rapids and Chief Joseph dams. The fish runs in this area have greatly diminished from levels that existed prior to Columbia River Basin development. The major cause of this decline has been the mainstem hydropower dams. However, overfishing and habitat degradation have also affected the runs.

Local fishery experts recently developed plans for enhancing the runs in these basins. These plans are part of the Council's overall effort to increase salmon and steelhead runs throughout the Columbia Basin. In general, these plans involve supplementing the natural fish runs, where they still exist, with hatchery fish and making habitat improvements.

A major program to supplement natural fish runs in the area is about to be implemented through the Rock Island Dam Settlement Agreement (recognized and adopted by the Council in its fish and wildlife program). It is not clear whether this program will be carefully evaluated and coordinated with other existing and proposed supplementation programs in the basin. The Council is concerned that a lack of coordination could result in inconsistent, unneeded or duplicative efforts. The Council has notified the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, its members and the mid-Columbia public utility districts of these concerns.

In addition, fisheries agencies and tribes have expressed concern that habitat protection and improvement could receive too little consideration during the implementation of these plans. Efforts to protect habitat could be enhanced by better coordination of individual fishery managers' goals. Therefore, the Council is encouraging a cooperative approach in this area. ■■

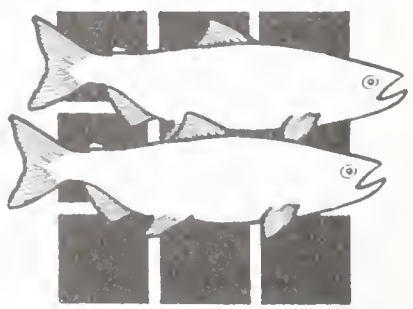
Council meeting practices changed

The Northwest Power Planning Council has decided to change its practices regarding committee meetings and working sessions.

The Council will hold internal work sessions each month. These are informal meetings between small groups of Council members and staff, used primarily to give guidance to staff, for staff briefings and other preliminary discussions. These are not open to the public unless announced as open meetings.

The Council will continue to hold open work sessions, which, like the regular Council meetings, are open to the public. These are used for the initial presentation of issue papers, consultations with interest groups and preliminary discussion of issues by the Council.

All parties who previously received notices about the Council's Power Planning Committee or Fish and Wildlife Committee will receive notices and agendas for the open work sessions. ■■



AGENDA

Council Meeting 153, July 11, 1990, 1:30 p.m.

Outlaw Inn, 1701 Highway 93 South,
Kalispell, Montana, 406–755–6100

Status Reports

1. **Report on Hungry Horse Dam Activities:** Representatives of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Council Decisions

2. **Council Decision on Updating Protected Areas Designation Rulemaking:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; Bob Lohn, general counsel, and Peter Paquet, wildlife coordinator *(request paper 90–10)*.
3. **Council Decision on Council's Fiscal Year 1992 and Fiscal Year 1991 Revised Budgets:** Edward Sheets, executive director; and Jim Tanner, administrative officer.
4. **Council Business:**
   - Consideration of Council support for Newberry Crater National Monument legislation
   - Agenda for next meeting
   - Adoption of minutes.

Public Comment

5. **Public Comment on the Yakima Production Project** *(request paper 90–9)*.
6. **Public Comment on any Other Issues.**

Council Working Session, July 12, 1990, 9 a.m.

Outlaw Inn, 1701 Highway 93 South,
Kalispell, Montana, 406–755–6100

1. **Continuing Council Discussion on Draft Resource Portfolio for 1990 Power Plan and Draft 1990 Action Plan.**
2. **Council Discussion on Future Fish and Wildlife Issues.**

The Council may hold an executive session to discuss matters protected under the internal personnel or premature disclosure exceptions. With the exception of this executive session, the Council meeting and working session are open to the public.

UPDATE!

Goodwill Games: energy conference

The Northwest Power Planning Council has invited leading experts from the United States and the Soviet Union to a conference to discuss energy conservation and least-cost energy planning this summer. This conference will be part of the Citizens' Initiative Conference held in conjunction with the 1990 Goodwill Games in Seattle.

The conference will be held July 23–27, 1990, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Stouffer Madison Hotel, 515 Madison Street, Seattle, Washington. It is open to the public, but on a first-come basis. Space will be limited.

Major speakers at this conference (in addition to the Soviet participants) tentatively include:

- Tom Trulove, chairman, Edward Sheets and Jim Litchfield, staff, Northwest Power Planning Council.
- The Honorable Norm Rice, Mayor of Seattle.
- Jim Jura, administrator, and Sue Hickey, Bonneville Power Administration.
- David Goldstein, senior staff scientist, Natural Resources Defense Council.
- Richard Sonstelie, president, Puget Sound Power and Light Company.
- Sharon Nelson, chairman, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and president, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissions.
- Randy Hardy, superintendent, Seattle City Light.

For a complete agenda, call the Council's public involvement division at the Portland office. ■

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Spokane, Washington on June 13–14. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

Power planning issues

The Council continued its deliberation on the draft resource portfolio for the 1990 Power Plan and the draft 1990 Action Plan. It reviewed the results of analysis on alternative priorities for the portfolio and looked at the effect of changing the order of resources on the probability of building large thermal plants. The Council also reviewed the cost of changing the priority order. Several additional studies were identified for further analysis.

The Council held a consultation with members of the state energy facility siting councils in Washington, Oregon and Montana. The siting council members described how the siting process worked in each state. Also discussed was the potential for securing options on generating resources. This would involve work on the design, siting and licensing of a resource.

On June 14, a consultation was held with representatives of the Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee Board of Directors. The discussion focused on the issues raised with the state siting councils. Utility representatives identified the issues that would have to be resolved to allow them to successfully option generating resources.

These utility officials also discussed the importance of purchases and exchanges of power in meeting future energy needs. They indicated the Council could play a constructive role by identifying the value of mutually beneficial transactions, including the role of transmission in facilitating such transactions.

Fish and wildlife issues

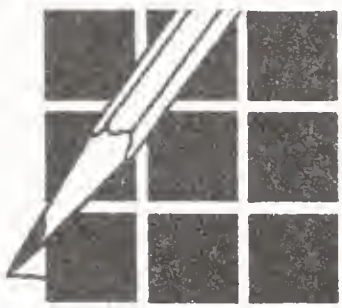
The Council received a briefing on the Mid-Columbia system planning issues. See news story on this item.

The Council received public comment on the proposal to proceed with final design and construction of the Yakima Production Project (paper 90–9).

Other issues

The Council received public comment on the Council's draft Fiscal Year 1992 and 1991 revised budgets (paper 90–8).

The Council adopted a resolution calling on the Department of Housing and Urban Development to incorporate the Council's model conservation standards into codes for manufactured housing. See news story. ■■



Note: The Northwest Power Planning Council's western Washington office has a new phone number: 206-956-2200.

Meetings

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Council Member Work Session: Tentatively scheduled for the week of July 23 at the Stouffer Madison Hotel in Seattle, Washington.

Site Visit: July 17–18, Council members will inspect anadromous fish habitat on the headwaters and upper middle fork of Idaho's Salmon River. Although a quorum may be present, the purpose of the visit is for information gathering only—no formal meeting will be held.

Yakima Production Project Consultation: July 24. Call the central office for more information.

System Planning Group: August 1, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: July 5 and August 1, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: July 26, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. ■

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(90–10) Final Rule: 1990 Amendments to Update the Protected Areas Designations.

Previously announced publications

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(90–8) Draft Northwest Power Planning Council Fiscal Year 1992 Budget and Fiscal Year 1991 Revised Budget.

(90–7) Staff Briefing Paper: Salmon and Steelhead System Planning Status Report.

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1987 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

Directory of Organizations: April 1990. ■

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In this issue:

- Congress votes funds for Northwest fish
- Manufactured housing energy–efficient resolution
- Joint U.S./Soviet energy conference
- Upper Columbia salmon and steelhead status report
- Synopsis of June 13–14 Council meeting
- Agenda for July 11–12 Council meeting

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Northwest Power Planning Council

Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

Mid-Oct. ▪ ***Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan (paper 90-12).***

For more information:

Public Information & Involvement Division,
Northwest Power Planning Council,
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue
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Portland, Oregon 97204
503-222-5161

Toll Free Phone:
1-800-452-2324 *(Oregon)*
1-800-222-3355 *(Idaho, Montana, Washington)*

FAX number 1-503-222-9246

New power plan: the Action Plan is progressing

The Northwest Power Planning Council is continuing to develop the Action Plan for the Northwest's new 20-year power plan. At a time when the region's electricity needs are just being met by the region's existing system and when the region is continuing to grow, the completed Action Plan will be critical to the region's future.

In its analysis, the Council has identified resources that it believes will ensure a future of plentiful electricity at the lowest economic and environmental costs. As much as 12,000 megawatts of conservation, renewables, high-efficiency resources and more conventional thermal resources (such as coal and nuclear) need to be acquired over the next 20 years in this scenario.

The Council has also looked at other future scenarios that might occur. These include a future where neither nuclear power plants nor coal plants can be sited or built. The region would have to replace the power these thermal resources would provide with more gas-fired resources such as cogeneration and combustion turbines.

In another future scenario, higher natural gas prices and availability problems would cause the region to rely upon coal and nuclear technologies.

The goal of the Action Plan is to enable the region to respond to any future that unfolds. These scenarios cover a range of those futures. Within each of these scenarios, efficiency improvements (conservation) and renewable technologies take precedence, but the emphasis on other resources and objectives varies.

Four draft objectives have been developed that will help the Council and the region prepare for these futures. These objectives are:

1. Implement all cost-effective efficiency improvements in the existing generation, transmission and end-use of electricity.
2. Utilities should option and acquire the most cost-effective renewable and high-efficiency resources as needed, and work to resolve uncertainties regarding these resources. (Optioning refers to completing the time-consuming but relatively inexpensive tasks of designing, siting and licensing projects but delaying the construction until it is actually clear that a project is needed.)
3. Confirm the viability of large thermal resource options.
4. Take other actions to ensure a safe, efficient, reliable and environmentally sound power system. ▪▪

New power plan: schedule

To provide more time for consultations before a draft plan is distributed, the Council has decided to modify the previously announced schedule for the new power plan. The new schedule is:

Sept.	**Consultations on the draft Action Plan objectives.**
Nov.	**Draft power plan distributed for public comment.**
Jan. '91	**Public hearings in the four Northwest states.**
March	**Adopt the new power plan.** ▪▪

PLEASE RETURN

Funds for NW fish gain approval of Senate committee

An appropriation of $18.5 million to fund fish screens and other fish passage protections on Columbia and Snake river dams has been approved by the full Senate Appropriations Committee. The region's senators, led by Senator Mark O. Hatfield (Oregon), the senior Republican on the committee, provided strong leadership in getting the appropriation through committee. Senators James McClure (Idaho) and Brock Adams (Washington), both members of the Senate committee, added support for the proposal.

The appropriation, part of the Fiscal Year 1991 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill, is scheduled for a floor vote in the Senate in late July. The House approved $17.5 million for fish bypass improvements at the federal dams earlier this summer. The House and Senate conference committee will meet later to resolve differences in the two versions of the bill.

The funds are earmarked for improvements at six dams operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Lower Granite, Little Goose, McNary, Lower Monumental, The Dalles and Ice Harbor dams.

The Council has made fish bypass for juvenile fish a high priority because of the huge mortality rate at these hydroelectric projects. Currently, over half the juvenile fish migrating downstream are killed by dam turbines. The Council estimates that state-of-the-art screens and bypass mechanisms will cut the death rate in half over unscreened dams. ∷

Endangered species hearings

This spring, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Idaho, Oregon Trout, the American Fisheries Society and several environmental groups filed petitions with the National Marine Fisheries Service to list five species of wild Northwest salmon as either endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. These petitions, if granted, could redefine the way the Columbia River is managed.

To begin building a consensus for action, Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield and Representatives Ron Wyden (Oregon) and Jolene Unsoeld (Washington) held joint congressional oversight hearings on the petitions this summer. The Council testified at the first of these hearings held June 30 in Portland, Oregon. The next issue of *Northwest Energy News* will excerpt statements presented at the hearings.

As a result of these hearings, Senator Hatfield asked that, by October 1, the region's governors, federal agencies, Indian tribes and others, facilitated by the Northwest Power Planning Council, devise a process for developing a "predecisional" management plan addressing issues presented by the potential listings. Hatfield also called on each group to prepare a list of all potential options that could be incorporated into such a management plan.

Senator Bob Packwood (Oregon) also held hearings on this issue in towns along the Columbia River. ∷

Salmon River visit

In mid-July, the Northwest Power Planning Council sponsored an inspection trip to Idaho's Salmon River Basin. This basin once produced healthy runs of sockeye, chinook and steelhead. Unfortunately, this has changed, and the National Marine Fisheries Service was petitioned recently to list the sockeye and chinook runs as endangered species.

The inspection trip was a chance to bring together all the parties that need to work with each other to fix the problems encountered in the basin. Congressional staff members, representatives of utility, agricultural, fishery agencies and tribal interests and Council members Jim Goller, Stan Grace, Ted Hallock, Ted Bottiger, and Bob Saxvik participated. They examined habitat projects in Bear Valley, toured the Sawtooth Hatchery (the hatchery furthest upriver) and toured the site of the Alturas Lake Creek flow restorative project. During the tour, they also discussed the impact of agricultural activities on the fish and the problem of water flows in the Snake River Basin. ∷

Note: Meeting notifications

The Council is compiling a list of people interested in receiving notices of agenda or meeting changes for Council meetings and open work sessions, and notices of open consultations with interested organizations.

To be included in this "Council meeting" list, call the Council's public involvement division in the Portland office. Only those people on the list will be notified of changes and consultations. ∷

AGENDA

Council Meeting 154, August 8, 1990, 9 a.m.

Council Offices, 851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100, Portland, Oregon
503-222-5161, 1-800-452-2324 (OR), 1-800-222-3355 (ID, MT, WA)

Council Decisions

1. **Council Decision on the Yakima Production Project:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; and Harry Wagner, planning associate *(request paper 90-9)*.
2. **Council Decision on Response to Comments on Protected Areas Designation Rulemaking:** Rick Applegate; Bob Lohn, general counsel; and Peter Paquet, wildlife coordinator *(request paper 90-10)*.
3. **Council Decision on Draft Comments on Bonneville Power Administration's Columbia River System Operation Review:** Edward Sheets, executive director; and Steve Crow, director, government affairs.
4. **Council Decision on Lost-opportunity Wildlife Projects:** Rick Applegate and Peter Paquet, wildlife coordinator.
5. **Council Decision on Council's Fiscal Year 1992 and Fiscal Year 1991 Revised Budget:** Edward Sheets and Jim Tanner, administrative officer.
6. **Council Business:**
   - Fish and wildlife data coordinator contract
   - Agenda for next meeting
   - Adoption of minutes

Public Comment

7. **Public Comment on any Other Issue.**

Council Working Session, August 9, 1990, 9 a.m.

Council Offices, 851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100, Portland, Oregon

1. **Council Discussion on Future Fish and Wildlife Issues.**
2. **Continuing Council Discussion on Draft Resource Portfolio for 1990 Power Plan and Draft 1990 Action Plan.**

The Council may hold an executive session to discuss matters protected under the internal personnel or premature disclosure exceptions. With the exception of this executive session, the Council meeting and working session are open to the public.

UPDATE!

Council members tour Montana's coal fields

Recently, Idaho Council member Bob Saxvik joined Montana members John Brenden and Stan Grace for a tour of Colstrip, Montana, where hundreds of tons of low-sulfur coal are mined daily and used to fuel boilers in generating plants throughout the Western states.

Council members stood on a 24-foot thick coal seam and watched a drag line with a boom the length of a football field expose more of the coal seam. Shovels with 25-cubic-yard buckets loaded the coal into 120-ton trucks. Council members also viewed the successful reclamation of surface-mined land where mined areas were restored to approximate the original contours and replanted.

Council members Saxvik, Grace and Brenden in front of a Colstrip coal plant.

A consortium of Northwest utilities own the four large Colstrip power plants toured by the Council members. Together, the plants are capable of generating 2,100 megawatts of electricity. These plants are recognized for their state-of-the-art emission controls. In addition, a new, 35-megawatt coal plant that burns waste coal from the local mines was recently brought online by an independent power producer. ■

Integrated System Plan available soon

The next major product of the the subbasin planning process will be available in mid-August. This report, the Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan (paper 90-12), has been developed by the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority. It summarizes the 31 subbasin plans and analyzes them as a package, looking at harvest, mainstem passage, production tradeoffs, and consistency with other types of plans. It will also identify areas and stocks that may need special emphasis.

Comment on the Draft Integrated System Plan will be taken through mid-October. The Authority will submit its final plan to the Council as recommendations for the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. ■

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Kalispell, Montana, on July 11-12. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

Status reports

The Council heard a status report on activities being carried on by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation at Hungry Horse Dam in western Montana. The dam's peak generating capacity will increase by approximately 42 percent due to generator renovations and other efficiency improvements.

Council decisions

The Council voted to amend the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program to include state agency revisions to the protected areas designations (paper 90-10). The Council had adopted the original designations in 1988 to protect approximately 44,000 miles of streams with important fish or wildlife habitat from hydroelectric development.

The Council decided to send a letter supporting legislation to establish a national monument at Oregon's Newberry Volcano to the U.S. House and Senate committees dealing with the issue and to the Oregon congressional delegation. The Council feels that the legislation provides a good balance between protecting the outstanding geological, recreational and scenic values of the area, and allowing limited development of potential attractive geothermal energy resources compatible with the protection of surface features. The Council opposes efforts to modify the bill and change that balance.

Decisions on the Council's Fiscal 1991 and 1992 budgets were deferred until the August Council meeting.

(continued on next page)

Public comment

Public comment was taken on the Yakima Production Project—a hatchery designed to supplement natural fish production in Washington's Yakima River Basin (paper 90-9). ■■

Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: **August 8-9** at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. **September 12-13** at Templin's Hotel in Post Falls, Idaho. **October 10-11** at the Tacoma Sheraton Hotel in Tacoma, Washington.

Council Member Work Sessions: The Fish and Wildlife Committee will meet August 21, 7 p.m. at the Red Lion in Kelso, Washington to discuss lower river system planning issues. The Council will hold a working session August 22 at the Council's central office in Portland Oregon.

System Planning Group: September 5, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: September 5, 9 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: August 30, 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Wildlife Advisory Committee: The committee met on July 31 in Portland, Oregon. Call the Council to receive agendas regularly, if interested. ■■

Publications available

Order publications from Judi Hertz, public involvement division, telephone number 503-222-5161, toll free: 1-800-452-2324 in Oregon or 1-800-222-3355 in Idaho, Montana or Washington. (Not all publications are available immediately, but they will be sent to you as soon as possible.)

NOTE: to simplify ordering items, each issue paper is assigned a number. When requesting a publication, use the number.

New publications

(90-12) Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan.

Previously announced publications

(90-10) Final Rule: 1990 Amendments to Update the Protected Areas Designations and Response to Comments.

(90-9) Yakima Production Project: Review of Preliminary Design Report.

(90-8) Draft Northwest Power Planning Council Fiscal Year 1992 Budget and Fiscal Year 1991 Revised Budget.

(90-7) Staff Briefing Paper: Salmon and Steelhead System Planning Status Report.

(90-6) Staff Issue Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities.

(90-5) Staff Issue Paper: Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90-4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

(90-2) Staff Briefing Paper: Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio.

(90-1) Staff Issue Paper: New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects.

(89-49) Staff Issue Paper: Planning Assumptions for Direct Service Industries' Loads.

(89-48) Staff Issue Paper: Existing Resources and Power Transactions.

(89-47) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Supply for the 1990 Power Plan.

(89-46) Staff Issue Paper: Solar Electric Resources.

(89-45) Staff Issue Paper: Potential Cogeneration Resources in the Pacific Northwest.

(89-44) Staff Issue Paper: Coal-fired Generating Resources.

(89-43) Staff Issue Paper: Nuclear Resources.

(89-42) Staff Issue Paper: Conservation Voltage Regulation.

(89-41) Staff Issue Paper: Biomass Resources.

(89-40) Staff Issue Paper: Wind Resources.

(89-39) Staff Issue Paper: Assessment of the Potential for the Direct Application of Renewable Resources.

(89-38) Staff Issue Paper: Non-aluminum Industrial Sector Conservation.

(89-37) Staff Issue Paper: Better Use of the Hydropower System.

(89-36) Staff Issue Paper: Geothermal Resources.

(89-29) Staff Issue Paper: Transmission and Distribution System Loss Reduction.

(89-1) 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Northwest Power Plan.

1986 Northwest Power Plan. The 20-year electrical power plan for the Northwest.

1987 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. ■■

UPDATE!

Editor: Ruth L. Curtis
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FAX: 509-359-2350

In this issue:

- New power plan status report and schedule
- Montana's coal fields
- Senate committee approves funds for fish screens
- Wild Northwest salmon as endangered species
- Integrated System Plan coming soon
- Synopsis of July 11–12 Council meeting
- Agenda for August 8–9 Council meeting

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Volume 7, Number 9

UPDATE!

Northwest Power Planning Council

September 1990

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Meeting notice

Please notify the Council's public involvement division if you wish to receive written notice of agenda or time changes for Council meetings and open work sessions and if you wish notice of open consultations.

New power plan: schedule

To provide more time for consultations before a draft plan is distributed, the Council is modifying the previously announced schedule for the new power plan. The new schedule is:

Sept.	**Comment on the draft Action Plan objectives.**
Nov.	**Draft power plan distributed for public comment.**
Jan. '91	**Public hearings in the four Northwest states.**
March	**Adopt the new power plan.**

Hatfield holds public meeting

Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield convened a public meeting August 15 in the Council's offices to hear a progress report on work toward a salmon and steelhead management plan that could be in place in time for next spring's fish runs. The Senator has asked the Council to work with the Northwest governors and other interests to facilitate development of a process that could lead to such a plan.

"We support a regional effort to resolve the issue of endangered species, and we are committed to avoiding the divisiveness that has characterized the spotted owl dispute," Council Chairman Tom Trulove told Senator Hatfield.

This past spring, petitions were filed with the National Marine Fisheries Service to declare five species of Columbia and Snake River salmon as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. That agency is expected to have a draft decision ready for public review in 1991, but a final decision would not likely occur before 1992.

The Council is currently contacting groups representing the major interests in the region and has approved retaining a mediator to help the group reach a regional consensus so that endangered species concerns can be addressed early next year. ■

Senator Mark Hatfield (third from the right) meeting with regional fisheries and power system representatives

Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call the toll-free telephone numbers listed in this publication to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: **September 12** at Templin's Hotel, Post Falls, Idaho. **October 10–11** at the Sheraton in Tacoma, Washington. **November 14–15** at the Park Plaza Hotel in Helena, Montana. **December 12–13** at Council offices in Portland, Oregon.

Council Working Session: September 13 at Templin's Hotel, Post Falls, Idaho; and September 26 and 27 at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Generating Resources Advisory Committee, October 4, 9 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Research Development and Demonstration Advisory Committee: October 18, 9 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: September 27 and October 25, 9:30 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: September 5, October 3 and November 7, 9 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. ■

PLEASE RETURN

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Portland, Oregon on August 8 and 9, 1990. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

YAKIMA PROJECT APPROVED

The Council gave the go-ahead for final design of the Yakima Production Project, a complex of hatcheries and acclimation ponds that is expected to boost annual salmon and steelhead runs in the Yakima Valley by 85,000 fish. The Council asked the designers to develop and evaluate a scaled-down alternative to reduce genetic risk of the project and resolve other concerns prior to Council approval of construction.

The Yakima project is designed to rebuild native runs. It will test the assumption that hatchery fish can be used to enhance natural production. Ordinarily, hatcheries are used to augment harvest, and the survivors would return to the hatchery.

But under the Yakima project, fish will be reared in ponds containing water from specific natural streams, then released into those streams to migrate to the sea. It is hoped that the surviving fish will return to the streams to breed naturally, thus repopulating natural habitats. A decision on construction is anticipated in two years. If the experiment is successful, it may be used to rebuild runs elsewhere in the Columbia Basin.

The project is the work of the Bonneville Power Administration, Yakima Indian Nation, and the Washington departments of fisheries and wildlife.

RIVER SYSTEM REVIEW

The Council approved comments that will go to the interagency team preparing the environmental impact statement for the Columbia River System Operation Review. The review is a comprehensive look at how the Columbia River is operated and how it meets competing demands. The Council's comments urge agencies to 1) consider in advance how the study will fit with the current endangered species issues, 2) acknowledge uncertainties and consider ways to narrow them, 3) give full consideration to alternatives to existing water use and storage policies, 4) outline how operational changes could be made, and 5) take into account the Council's role in balancing fish and power issues.

WILDLIFE PROJECTS

The Council approved advance planning for two wildlife mitigation projects in an expedited review process because of evidence that the benefits of the projects would be lost if the projects were subjected to lengthy review. The projects are a purchase of just under 3,000 acres near Umatilla, Oregon, and acquisition of timber rights on 320 acres near the Clearwater River in Idaho. The Council's vote allows Bonneville to fund support work. The projects would benefit a wide range of birds and mammals that have been affected by hydropower.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Council adopted its response to those who had commented on amendments to protected areas designations. The amendments had been made at the previous meeting. The Council also adopted a $7.6 million revised budget for Fiscal Year 1991 and a $7.9 million budget for Fiscal Year 1992. ■■

Energy Expo '90

The Council is an endorsing organization for a conference that will discuss existing and new electric technologies to be held at the Tacoma Dome Center October 30 and 31, 1990 in Tacoma, Washington.

Registration is $195 for the two-day conference. For more information, call Betty Grimshaw at Seattle City Light 206-684-3031. Seattle City Light is a co-sponsor with Puget Power, Snohomish County PUD, Tacoma City Light and the Bonneville Power Administration. ■■

Goodwill Games: energy conference

The Council met with leading experts from the United States and the Soviet Union in July to discuss energy conservation and least-cost energy planning. This conference was part of the Citizens' Initiative Conferences held in conjunction with the 1990 Goodwill Games in Seattle, Washington.

For the one-page report of the conference, the protocol agreement signed by the parties and/or the reports presented at the conference, call the Council's public involvement division at the Portland office. ■■

George Tsiklauri of the Krzhizhanovsky Power Engineering Institute in Moscow meets with Council members and staff at the energy conservation and least-cost planning symposium in Seattle. L to r: Tom Trulove, Bob Saxvik, Tsiklauri, Jim Litchfield, Jim Goller

AGENDA

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Council Meeting 155

September 12*-13, 1990 - 9 a.m.

Templin's Resort
414 East First Avenue
Post Falls, Idaho
208-773-1611

Council Decisions

1. **Council Decision on Contract and Status Report on Endangered Species Act:** Edward Sheets, executive director; Steve Crow, director, government affairs.
2. **Deliberation on Council Resolution on Columbia River Compact:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; and John Volkman, senior counsel.
3. **Council Business:**
   - System planning contract
   - Office lease
   - Office systems (telephone, computer)
   - Generating Resources Advisory Committee charter
   - Agenda for next meeting
   - Adoption of minutes

Council Discussion

4. **Discussion of Draft Action Plan:** Edward Sheets; Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division.

Public Comment

Public Comment on any other issue.

Council Working Session

September 13, 1990 - 9 a.m.

1. **Overview of Water Budget and Flows:** Rick Applegate; Jim Ruff, staff hydrologist; John Fazio, power system analyst; and John Volkman. (9 a.m. Thursday)
2. **Briefing on World Oil Prices and Impacts on the Plan:** Jim Litchfield; and Terry Morlan, director, demand forecasting.
3. **Status of Power Plan Consultations:** Edward Sheets and Jim Litchfield.
4. **Other Issues**

***Council working session may follow the Council meeting if time allows.**

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Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

Mid-Oct. ▪ ***Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan (paper 90-12).***

Deadline extended:

The Council extends the time for recommendations to amend the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program on the subject of anadromous fish production to January 15, 1991.

Publications available

Order publications from Judi Hertz, public involvement division, see telephone numbers above. (Not all publications are available immediately, but they will be sent to you as soon as possible.)

NOTE: When requesting a publication, please use the number only.

(90-14) Working Draft Summary of the Northwest Power Plan.

Final 31 subbasin plans for the Columbia River Basin.

(90-13) Recommendations of the RD&D Advisory Committee regarding Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Ocean, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90-12) Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan.

(90-10) Protected Areas Summary and Response to Comments.

(90-9) Yakima Production Project: Review of Preliminary Design Report.

(90-8) Draft Northwest Power Planning Council Fiscal Year 1992 Budget and Fiscal Year 1991 Revised Budget.

(90-7) Staff Briefing Paper: Salmon and Steelhead System Planning Status Report.

(90-6) Staff Issue Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities.

(90-5) Staff Issue Paper: Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90-4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

(90-2) Staff Briefing Paper: Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio.

(90-1) Staff Issue Paper: New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects.

1986 Northwest Power Plan. The 20-year electrical power plan for the Northwest.

1987 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

Directory of Organizations, April 1990. ∎

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Northwest Power Planning Council

Draft Action Plan available for public comment

A 13-page Action Plan summary of the goal and key objectives of the new power plan has been out for public review since late August.

In the plan, the Council recognizes that resources are limited and that it must address the need for balance in its resource decisions.

Conservation, as in two previous plans, remains the priority resource to acquire. But the Council proposes that the next three steps run concurrently with the first step, not sequentially. Step two calls for quicker development of renewable resources, including small hydro, geothermal, wind and solar power and high-efficiency resources (including cogeneration and a combination of nonfirm hydropower with a back-up system for dry years). Step three would be to determine whether thermal resources could be sited, licensed and potentially developed in the Pacific Northwest.

The Council's fourth step is to improve the overall planning process.

The Council seeks public comment on this summary. If you would like a copy of the document, call the public involvement division and ask for paper 90-14. ■

New power plan schedule

To provide more time for consultations before a draft plan is distributed, the Council is modifying the previously announced schedule for the new power plan. The new schedule is:

Nov.	**Draft power plan distributed for public comment.**
Jan.	**Public hearings in the four Northwest states.**
March	**Adopt the new power plan.**

Energy Expo '90

A conference to discuss existing and new electric technologies will be held at the Tacoma Dome Center October 30 and 31 in Tacoma, Washington. For more information, call TLA at 206-455-9917. The conference is sponsored by Puget Sound Power and Light with participation from Seattle City Light, Snohomish County PUD, Tacoma City Light and the Bonneville Power Administration. ■

Meeting notice

Please notify the Council's public involvement division if you wish to receive written notice of agendas or time changes for Council meetings, work sessions and/or consultations. ■

Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call the toll-free telephone numbers listed in this publication to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: **October 10-11** at the Sheraton Hotel in Tacoma, Washington. **November 14-15** at the Park Plaza Hotel in Helena, Montana. **December 12-13** at Council offices in Portland, Oregon.

Council Working Session: October 10 and 11 at the Sheraton Hotel in Tacoma, Washington and October 24 and 25 at 9 a.m. in Portland, Oregon.

Generating Resources Advisory Committee: October 4, 9 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Research Development and Demonstration Advisory Committee: October 18, 9 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: October 25, 9:30 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: October 3 and November 7, 9 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. ■

Public meetings on plans to rebuild salmon runs

Comment on the Columbia Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan (paper 90-12) is being taken during October at public meetings throughout the region. Call Janie Pearcy at the Council's central office for information on the hearings ■

Salmon seining on Sand Island near the mouth of the Columbia River, c. 1920. From the collection of the Oregon Historical Society.

PLEASE RETURN

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Northwest Power Planning Council met in Post Falls, Idaho on September 12 and 13, 1990. The following is a synopsis of what occurred:

ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Council authorized a mediator to work with Columbia River Basin interest groups to come up with a salmon management plan. The Mediation Institute of Mill Creek, Washington, a firm that had been approved by representatives of the Northwest governors, was selected. The firm will assist in communications, drafting ground rules, advising on structure and timetables and help conduct meetings.

The call for a salmon management plan was initiated by Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield, in response to petitions to declare species of salmon threatened or endangered. The senator asked the Council to work with the governors to facilitate discussions that could lead to an agreement on how to address salmon management, before an endangered species listing process is completed.

COLUMBIA RIVER COMPACT

The Council deferred a vote on a proposal by an Oregon Council member to give the issue further public review. Ted Hallock had proposed that Oregon and Washington admit Idaho to the Columbia River Compact. The Compact regulates commercial fish harvests in the portion of the Columbia River bordered by Oregon and Washington. Idaho fish must migrate through this portion of the river.

SNAKE RIVER WATER BUDGET

During its work session, the Council agreed to review the water budget with particular focus on the Snake River. Only one-third of the Snake water budget comes from storage. The remainder comes from run-off, and that has been consistently low for the past few years.

The water budget is released during the spring salmon and steelhead runs to increase flows and aid downstream migration. Fish biologists believe that fish survival decreases as the time to travel downstream increases.

The debate over the Snake River water budget centers on a number of issues. These include inadequate flows, the effects on the power system and non-migratory fish, the cap on the amount of water, and uncertainty of biological benefits.

If, concluding its review, the Council feels changes are warranted, it could propose amending its fish and wildlife program.

ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

The Council received an update on consultations and other public review processes involving a draft Action Plan summary that is currently out for public comment. The summary presents goals and objectives of a proposed new electric power plan. A draft is scheduled to be released in late November.

OIL PRICE IMPACTS

The Council received a briefing on how world oil prices could affect the power plan. Oil prices per se have relatively little effect on demand for electricity (a 50-percent change in oil prices triggers a 5-percent change in electricity demand).

However, oil prices do have a significant indirect effect insofar as they affect the economy. The state of the economy is the major determinant of electricity demand. The Council asked for expanded review.

OTHER ACTIONS

In other actions, the Council voted 6-2 to fund expanded public involvement activities by fish agencies and tribes in system planning. System planning is a review of salmon production in each of 31 subbasins. Individual subbasin plans will be integrated into one overall plan to rebuild runs throughout the Columbia Basin. ■

Working Session Agenda
Council offices, Portland, Oregon
October 24–25, 1990 – 9 a.m.

1. **Discussion of the draft Power Plan:** Edward Sheets, executive director; Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division.
2. **Continuing discussion of water budget and flows:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; Jim Ruff, staff hydrologist; John Fazio, power system analyst; and Chip McConnaha, systems ecologist.
3. **Status of Salmon Summit:** Edward Sheets; Steve Crow, director, government affairs.
4. **Discussion of supplementation research projects:** Rick Applegate; Willa Nehlsen, research coordinator.
5. **Consultation on Power Plan with PNUCC (10/25 – 10 a.m. [tentative]).**
6. **Puget Sound reinforcement:** Sue Hickey, assistant administrator, energy resources; Chuck Clark, assistant administrator, engineering, Bonneville Power Administration. **(10/25 – approximately 1:30 p.m.).**
7. **Other Issues.**

Note: This preliminary agenda is subject to change. Please call Bess Wong at the Portland Council offices to confirm.

AGENDA

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Council Meeting #156

October 10, 1990 – 9 a.m.

Tacoma Sheraton Hotel
1320 Broadway Plaza
Tacoma, Washington
206-572-3200

Council Decisions

1. **Council decision to enter rulemaking on Minidoka/Dworshak wildlife loss assessments:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; and Peter Paquet, wildlife coordinator.
2. **Public comment and potential Council decision on regional guidelines for wildlife mitigation priorities as recommended by the Wildlife Advisory Committee:** Rick Applegate and Peter Paquet.
3. **Council decision on protected areas technical amendment extending time for agreement on Bear River Narrows and Auger Falls hydro projects (FERC nos. 9215 and 4797):** Rick Applegate; Peter Paquet; and John Volkman, senior counsel.

Public Comment

4. **Public comment on Working Draft Summary of 1990 Action Plan.**
5. **Public comment on any other issue.**

Council Business

- **Monitoring and Evaluation Group contract**
- **Agenda for next meeting**
- **Adoption of minutes**
- **Annual business meeting and election of officers**

The Council may hold an executive session to discuss internal personnel matters.

Council Working Session

October 10-11, 1990* – 9 a.m.

1. **Discussion of draft recommended activities for implementation of the Action Plan:** Edward Sheets, executive director; Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division; and Tom Foley, manager, conservation and resource assessment.
2. **Continuing discussion on the Salmon Summit:** Edward Sheets; Steve Crow, director, government affairs; and Bob Lohn, general counsel.
3. **Continuing discussion on water budget and flows:** Rick Applegate; Jim Ruff, staff hydrologist; John Fazio, power system analyst; and Chip McConnaha, systems ecologist.
4. **Discussion of public comment received on Integrated System Plan:** Rick Applegate; and John Marsh, system planning coordinator.
5. **Other Issues**

* **On October 10, the working session will follow the Council meeting. The meeting on October 11 will begin at 9 a.m.**

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Comment deadlines

The Council is currently accepting public comment on the following papers and issues.

Mid-Oct.	*Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan (paper 90-12).*
Oct. 9	*Wildlife Mitigation Priorities (paper 90-17).*
Oct. 26	*Working Draft Summary of the Northwest Power Plan (paper 90-14).*

Deadline extended:

The Council extends the time for recommendations to amend the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program on the subject of anadromous fish production to January 15, 1991.

Wildlife priorities

The Council's Wildlife Advisory Committee has recommended priorities for wildlife mitigation in the Columbia River Basin. Copies of the Advisory Committee's recommendations are available. Depending upon comment, the Council may take action at its October meeting.

Publications available

Order publications from Judi Hertz, public involvement division, see telephone numbers above. (Not all publications are available immediately, but they will be sent to you as soon as possible.)

NOTE: When requesting a publication, please use the number only.

(90-16) Fiscal Year 1992 Budget and Fiscal Year 1991 Revisions.

(90-15) Umatilla Hatchery Master Plan.

(90-14) Working Draft Summary of the Northwest Power Plan.

Final 31 subbasin plans for the Columbia River Basin.

(90-13) Recommendations of the RD&D Advisory Committee regarding Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Ocean, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90-12) Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan.

(90-10) Protected Areas Summary and Response to Comments.

(90-9) Yakima Production Project: Review of Preliminary Design Report.

(90-7) Staff Briefing Paper: Salmon and Steelhead System Planning Status Report.

(90-6) Staff Issue Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities.

(90-5) Staff Issue Paper: Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90-4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

(90-2) Staff Briefing Paper: Resources Outside the Resource Portfolio.

(90-1) Staff Issue Paper: New Resources: Supply Curves and Environmental Effects.

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Volume 7, Number 11

UPDATE

November 1990

Northwest Power Planning Council

Salmon Summit

Ground rules to guide future talks to restore salmon stocks were the focus of the first meeting of the Salmon Summit on October 16 and 17 in Portland, Oregon.

These ground rules, drafted with assistance from The Mediation Institute, set forth the goals, structure and decision-making process for the consensus-building effort.

The call for a salmon plan was initiated by Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield, in response to petitions to declare species of salmon as threatened or endangered. The senator reiterated his request for the Council to work with the governors and other interests in developing a salmon plan, before an endangered species listing process is completed.

The coordinating committee—a panel representing the major affected interests and groups in the region—set February 1, 1991, as the deadline for finishing the plan to help marginal stocks of salmon.

The Salmon Summit process is viewed as complementary to the National Marine Fisheries Service listing process. Petitions were filed earlier this year on five stocks of Columbia and Snake River salmon. The National Marine Fisheries Service will decide by next spring whether to propose listing for these salmon stocks.

The coordinating committee also will hold meetings throughout the region, with most of them in the Columbia River Basin. All meetings are expected to be open to the public.

The Council's central office will be closed on November 12 for Veterans Day and on November 22 for Thanksgiving.

Council elects new officers

The Northwest Power Planning Council elected Jim Goller of Garden Valley, Idaho, to serve as chairman of the Council, and Ted Bottiger of Olympia, Washington, to serve as vice chairman until September 30, 1991. Goller was formerly vice chairman of the Council.

"This coming year will be an important test period for the Council," Goller said. "We know we can do a regional power plan and fish and wildlife program. The challenge will be whether the region can and will implement them."

Members of the Council are appointed by the governors of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. The Council members elect their officers.

Northwest Energy Code conference

A conference called "Sensible Living for the 90s" covering the advancements and improvements made since the Northwest Energy Code program started in 1986, will be held November 15 and 16 in Sun Valley, Idaho. The conference is co-sponsored by the Bonneville Power Administration, the Idaho Department of Water Resources, the Association of Idaho Cities and the Idaho Association of Counties. For further information, call Deni Hoehne at 208-344-8594.

Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call the toll-free telephone numbers listed in this publication to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: **November 14–15** at the Park Plaza Hotel in Helena, Montana. **December 12–13** at Council offices in Portland, Oregon.

Council Working Session: **November 8** at 9:30 a.m. and **November 9** at 9 a.m. at the Ramada Inn at the Spokane International Airport in Spokane, Washington.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: **November 29** at 9:30 a.m. at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: **November 7**, 9 a.m., and **December 5**, 9 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

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Working Session Agenda

Ramada Inn – Washington Room
Spokane International Airport
Spokane, Washington
November 8, 1990 – 9:30 a.m.
November 9, 1990 – 9 a.m.

1. **Discussion of the draft power plan:** Edward Sheets, executive director; Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division.

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Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Council met in Tacoma, Washington, in October. This is a synopsis of the October 10 meeting and October 11 working session.

WILDLIFE LOSSES

The Council voted to begin an amendment process that could result in accepting statements of wildlife losses at Dworshak and Minidoka dams. These statements—assessments of the habitat value lost—are used to determine levels of mitigation for hydropower-related losses.

A decision would amend the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. When the Council adopted its wildlife policy in 1989, loss statements were available for only 13 dams. Therefore, the Council included a process for adding new assessments as they became available, and this action is part of that process. It kicks off a public review period designed to review the reasonableness of the proposed loss statements. The Council will hold public hearings on the rulemaking at the next four Council meetings. See the Council agendas for details.

WILDLIFE GUIDELINES

The Council heard public comment on recommendations for wildlife mitigation priorities that have been developed by the Wildlife Advisory Committee. The committee proposed priorities, which the Council approved in amended form, for the lower Columbia Subbasin, the upper Columbia Subbasin and the Snake River Subbasin. A list of proposed priorities is available. Request publication #90-19.

PROTECTED AREAS

The Council voted to extend the time allowed for developers of the Bear River Narrows and Auger Falls hydroelectric projects in Idaho to reach agreement with that state's Department of Fish and Game. Last summer, the Council had exempted the two projects from its protected areas designation on the condition that agreement on the fish and wildlife benefits of the projects could be reach by September. The new deadline is January 1, 1991.

POWER PLAN

The Council took public comment on a draft summary of the action items in the power plan at its meeting. During the work session on the following day, the Council's power planning manager presented a format and sequence for the new power plan. The Council anticipates approving release of its draft plan at the November meeting. Upon approval, the draft would be revised to reflect any changes and would go to printing. It is expected to be available by the end of November or early December. The exact date would be determined by the number of changes.

SALMON SUMMIT

Staff updated the Council on proceedings with the Salmon Summit. The summit is projected as a series of mediator-assisted meetings among the key Columbia Basin interest groups. The objective is to arrive by consensus at a salmon management plan by early next year. The summit was precipitated by proposals to list certain species of Columbia and Snake river salmon as threatened or endangered. The first meeting of the parties was scheduled in October (see separate story).

WATER BUDGET AND FLOWS

As a result of a decision at a previous meeting to look more closely at the water budget and flows (both aids to migrating fish), the Council continued its factfinding. The Council's hydrologist and Corps of Engineers' staff presented information on the potential for modifying flood control procedures in ways that could allow additional flows for fish.

SYSTEM PLAN

Staff updated the Council on public comment on the draft Integrated System Plan. Several commentors focused on the need to ensure sustained increases in fish runs over the long term and urged the Council to take a close look at harvest management and improvements in mainstem survival.

New Council chairman Jim Goller at the October 16 Salmon Summit meeting. At Goller's left is Jim Jura, administator of the Bonneville Power Administration.

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Council Meeting #157

November 14–15, 1990 – 9 a.m.
Park Plaza
22 North Last Chance Gulch
Helena, Montana
406–443–2200

Council Decisions

1. **Council deliberation on entering rulemaking on the Draft 1991 Power Plan:** Edward Sheets, executive director; and Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division (request document 90-18 – available upon Council approval).
2. **Public hearing on Council rulemaking on Minidoka/Dworshak Wildlife Loss Assessments** (approximately 3 p.m.).
3. **Panel presentation and Council deliberation on Kerr Dam fish and wildlife mitigation:** (approximately 9 a.m., Thursday, November 15) Joe DosSantos, Salish and Kootenai Tribes; John Fraley, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Jon Jourdonnais, Montana Power; and Larry Lockard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Public Comment

4. **Public comment on any other issue.**

Council Business

- **Adoption of minutes.**

The Council may hold an executive session to discuss internal personnel matters or civil litigation.

Council Working Session

November 14–15, 1990* – 9 a.m.

1. **Continuing discussion on water budget and flows, including resident fish impacts, tributary storage and predation:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; Jim Ruff, staff hydrologist; John Fazio, power system analyst; and Chip McConnaha, systems ecologist.
2. **Briefing on hydropower assessments in protected areas:** Mark Reller, Montana Council staff.
3. **Other issues.**

*** The working session will follow the Council meeting.**

The Council may hold an executive session to discuss internal personnel matters or civil litigation.

COUNCIL MEETINGS AND COUNCIL WORKING SESSIONS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

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Comment deadlines

Deadline extended:

The Council extends the time for recommendations to amend the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program on the subject of anadromous fish production to January 15, 1991.

Publications available

Order publications from Judi Hertz, public involvement division, see telephone numbers above. (Not all publications are available immediately, but they will be sent to you as soon as possible.)

*NOTE: **When requesting a publication, please use the number only.***

(90-19) Guidelines for Wildlife Mitigation Priorities.

(90-18A) Draft 1991 Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan, Volume II (available upon Council approval).

(90-18) Draft 1991 Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan, Volume I (available upon Council approval).

(90-17) Wildlife Advisory Committee Recommendations.

(90-16) Fiscal Year 1992 Budget and Fiscal Year 1991 Revisions.

(90-15) Umatilla Hatchery Master Plan.

(90-14) Working Draft Summary of the Northwest Power Plan.

Final 31 subbasin plans for the Columbia River Basin.

(90-13) Recommendations of the RD&D Advisory Committee regarding Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Ocean, Wind and Solar Resources.

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(90-9) Yakima Production Project Review of Preliminary Design Report.

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(90-6) Staff Issue Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities.

(90-5) Staff Issue Paper: Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90-4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest.

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Volume 7, Number 12

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December 1990

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Council releases Draft 1991 Power Plan

Calling it the most important energy document it has issued to date, the Northwest Power Planning Council released its Draft 1991 Power Plan for public review this month. The Council will take written comment through Friday, March 15, 1991, and plans to hold at least one hearing in each Northwest state. (See schedule.)

The need for action is a theme that runs throughout the plan because the region has exhausted its electricity surplus. The regional economy is currently expanding at a healthy rate, and new resources to meet growing demand for electricity are needed immediately.

The plan, which has been two years in development, includes a forecast of electricity needs over the next 20 years and a thorough evaluation and selection of resources to meet those needs. It culminates with a set of actions (the Action Plan) designed to provide a reliable electricity supply at the lowest cost to the region.

In determining cost, the Council considered three factors: direct costs to build and operate a resource, environmental impacts, and risks of under or overbuilding. Each of these represents a kind of cost, and the Council worked to achieve a balance that would minimize costs overall.

The Council's central office will be closed on December 25, 1990, for Christmas Day and on January 1, 1991, for New Year's Day.

The draft power plan lays out a four-part strategy, with special emphasis on the next 10 years, for meeting future power needs. Because of the imminent need for power, each set of actions is to run concurrently.

1. Buy all the low-cost, environmentally benign resources currently available. This includes the region's most ambitious conservation program as well as the lowest-cost hydropower and cogeneration. The Council has identified 1,350 average megawatts of efficiency gains to meet growth in electricity demand over the next decade. The actual amount of efficiency improvements could be higher, and the megawatt figure is not a cap. It is, instead, a planning target. No opportunity for energy conservation should be missed. The successful completion of this action item will mean contacting nearly every residence, commercial enterprise and industrial facility in the Northwest. Acquiring the efficiency improvements identified under this objective will require capital expenditures by utilities and customers of $5 billion to $6 billion in the next 10 years, which is still approximately half the investment for the equivalent energy from thermal resources.

2. Build up an inventory of reliable resources that can be brought online quickly if needed. To do this, the region will have to reduce the lead time of these resources by completing the siting and design work and getting the necessary approvals. Once the pre-construction work is completed, a second decision would be made to begin construction or hold the project. This approach means that major commitments of capital are made closer to the time when the resource may be needed. Resources that are highlighted include hydropower, cogeneration and hydro-firming (backing up hydropower available in wetter years with other resources).

3. Confirm other resources that are promising and/or that still pose significant question marks. Promising resources are those that may not be ready for development because more information is needed, principally about their cost and availability. Renewable resources, such as wind, geothermal and solar power, are examples. Actions call for research, demonstration and development efforts to get needed information. Resources that pose questions include large thermal plants that have raised legal, environmental or public acceptance issues. Actions call for determining if these resources are viable or not, and if the region can or cannot rely on them.

4. The final objective calls for aggressive actions to remove barriers to developing desirable resources as well as actions to create incentives for their development. This will mean close cooperation with state regulatory and siting agencies. For example, policies should link utility profits to energy saved as well as energy sold. The Council supports incentives for conservation actions. The Council also supports appropriate regulatory treatment for activities that reduce resource lead times, and for research, development and demonstration activities. ⁘

Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public. Call the toll-free telephone numbers listed in this publication to receive an agenda, either on a one-time basis or regularly. Meeting times, locations and agenda items are changed occasionally. To confirm, call Council offices before the meeting.

Council Meetings: **December 12-13** at Council offices in Portland, Oregon. **January 9-10, 1991,** at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel in Boise, Idaho.

Monitoring and Evaluation Group: **December 27,** at 9:30 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon.

System Planning Oversight Committee: **December 5,** 9 a.m., at the Council's central office in Portland, Oregon. ⁘

Synopsis of last Council meeting

The Council met in Helena, Montana, on November 7 and 8. This is a synopsis of the meeting and the subsequent working session.

NEW POWER PLAN

After reviewing the draft power plan, the Council approved its release for public review. See separate story.

KERR DAM

The Council approved sending a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to support a proposed fish and wildlife mitigation management plan for Kerr Dam in Montana. The Council also will send letters encouraging coordination in implementing the plan, along with use of adaptive management principles, to the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

The plan, discussed in a panel presentation before the Council, proposes remedial measures to reduce the impacts on fish and wildlife of operating the dam. It also proposes measures to arrest the erosion of delta habitats in Montana's Flathead Lake.

WILDLIFE LOSSES

The Council held a hearing on a proposed amendment that could result in adding statements of wildlife losses at Idaho's Dworshak and Minidoka dams. These statements--assessments of the habitat value lost--are used to determine levels of mitigation for hydropower-related losses. A decision would amend the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program and complement loss statements now included for 15 other dams.

WATER BUDGET AND FLOWS

The Council continued its series of briefings on the water budget and flows (both aids to migrating fish). The discussion covered potential water storage sites in the Snake River area. The Council also reviewed the impacts on resident fish when reservoirs are operated for anadromous fish flows.

Representatives from the Bonneville Power Administration described their squawfish management plan in the John Day pool this past year. Bonneville plans to expand its program this coming year. It is estimated that if the squawfish population were reduced by 10 to 20 percent, half of the smolts now lost to predators would survive.

HYDROPOWER ASSESSMENTS

Montana Council staff outlined procedures Montana is using to assess the hydropower potential in areas designated protected from hydropower development. The review included assumptions Montana is using, the streamflow forecasting method, map work for displaying potential hydropower design, and a description of the computer software used to automate the design process. ⁞⁞

Hearings on the Draft 1991 Power Plan

Hearings are currently scheduled as follows:

January 9, 1991, Owyhee Plaza Hotel, Boise, Idaho, 7 p.m.

January 17, 1991, Holiday Inn at Sea-Tac Airport, Seattle, Washington, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

January 29, 1991, Cavanaugh's at Columbia Center, Kennewick, Washington, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

February 12, 1991, Sheraton Spokane Hotel, Spokane, Washington, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

February 21, 1991, Ramada Inn, Lewiston, Idaho, 7 p.m.

February 28, 1991, Council central offices, Portland, Oregon, in conjunction with the regularly scheduled Council working session.

March 6, 1991, Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 7 p.m.

March 13, 1991, Village Red Lion, Missoula, Montana, during the regularly scheduled Council meeting and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information on hearings, call your state office or the Council's public involvement division. ⁞⁞

How to order Volume II

Volume II is the technical, supporting documentation for the new draft power plan. To receive copies of Volume II, please call the public involvement division at the Council's central office. To reduce the possibility of mailing out unnecessary paper, Volume II chapters have been divided into six groups. This will allow you to order only the sections you want. **Please order copies by group only.**

☐ **Group 1:** (60 pages)
Chapter 1: Recommended Activities for Implementation of the Power Plan; Chapter 11: Resource Acquisition Process.
☐ **Group 2:** (80 pages)
Chapter 2: Background and History of the Northwest Power System; Chapter 3: The Council's Planning Strategy; Chapter 4: The Existing Regional Electric Power System.
☐ **Group 3:** (210 pages)
Chapter 5: Economic Forecasts for the Pacific Northwest; Chapter 6: Forecast of Electricity Use in the Pacific Northwest.
☐ **Group 4:** (190 pages)
Chapter 7: Conservation Resources; Chapter 12: Model Conservation Standards and Surcharge Methodology.
☐ **Group 5:** (360 pages)
Chapter 8: Generating Resources; Chapter 9: Accounting for Environmental Effects in Resource Planning; Chapter 16: Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Ocean, Wind and Solar Resources.
☐ **Group 6:** (120 pages)
Chapter 10: Resource Portfolio; Chapter 13: Financial Assumptions; Chapter 14: Resource Cost-Effectiveness; Chapter 15: Risk Assessment and Decision Analysis.
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Council Meeting #158
December 12–13, 1990 – 9 a.m.
Council's Central Office
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon
503-222-5161

Council Deliberation

1. **Recognition of tenth anniversary of Northwest Power Act:** Jim Goller, chairman.
2. **Review of Draft 1991 Power Plan and public comment:** Edward Sheets, executive director; and Jim Litchfield, director, power planning division.
3. **Public hearing on Council rulemaking on Minidoka/Dworshak wildlife loss assessments** (approximately 11 a.m. on Wednesday).
4. **Deliberation on Pend Oreille wetlands lost-opportunity project:** Rick Applegate, director, fish and wildlife division; Peter Paquet, wildlife coordinator; and representatives of the Upper Columbia United Tribes.
5. **Deliberation on new fish supplementation research projects:** Rick Applegate; and Willa Nehlsen, research coordinator.

Public Comment

6. **Public comment on any other issue.**

Council Business

7. **Adoption of minutes**

The Council may hold an executive session to discuss internal personnel matters.

Council Working Session
December 12–13, 1990* – 9 a.m.

1. **Briefing on Salmon Summit:** Edward Sheets; Steve Crow, director, government affairs; Rick Applegate.
2. **Continuing discussion on water budget and flows, including lowering reservoir levels and biological rationale:** Rick Applegate; Jim Ruff, staff hydrologist; John Fazio, power system analyst; and Chip McConnaha, systems ecologist.
3. **Briefing on amendments to the Clean Air Act and the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act:** Bob Lohn, general counsel; and Steve Crow.
4. **Staff briefing on billing credits:** Bob Lohn; and Tom Foley, manager, conservation and resource assessment.
5. **Staff briefing on Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission proposal on rate treatment for conservation:** Jim Litchfield.

*** The working session will follow the Council meeting.**

COUNCIL MEETINGS AND COUNCIL WORKING SESSIONS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

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Comment deadlines

Draft 1991 Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan, Volume I (90-18) March 15, 1991.

Draft 1991 Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan, Volume II (90-18A) March 15, 1991.

Deadline extended:

The Council extends the time for recommendations to amend the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program on the subject of anadromous fish production to January 15, 1991. ■

Publications available

Order publications from Judi Hertz, public involvement division, see telephone numbers above. (Not all publications are available immediately, but they will be sent to you as soon as possible.)

NOTE: When requesting a publication, please use the number only.

(90-19) Guidelines for Wildlife Mitigation Priorities.

(90-18A) Draft 1991 Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan, Volume II (see order blank inside).

(90-18) Draft 1991 Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan, Volume I.

(90-17) Wildlife Advisory Committee Recommendations.

(90-16) Fiscal Year 1992 Budget and Fiscal Year 1991 Revisions.

(90-15) Umatilla Hatchery Master Plan.

Final 31 subbasin plans for the Columbia River Basin.

(90-12) Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Integrated System Plan.

(90-10) Protected Areas Summary and Response to Comments.

(90-9) Yakima Production Project Review of Preliminary Design Report.

(90-7) Staff Briefing Paper: Salmon and Steelhead System Planning Status Report.

(90-6) Staff Issue Paper: Volunteer and Educational Fisheries Activities.

(90-5) Staff Issue Paper: Confirmation Agendas for Geothermal, Wind and Solar Resources.

(90-4) Final Report: Future Natural Gas Cost and Availability in the Pacific Northwest. ■